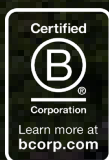


Environmental Sustainability at BDC London

A Guide for Tenants

BDC.LONDON



NET ZERO CARBON EVENTS

AEV | ASSOCIATION
OF EVENT
VENUES





- 04** Our Journey So Far
- 05** B Corp Certified
- 06** First Things First
- 11** Measuring our Footprint
- 12** Our Suppliers
- 15** Tips for Resident Businesses
- 17** Our Impact Report
- 18** Further Resources
- 19** Find Out More

Don't forget to connect with us on our main channels:





Our Journey So Far

Sustainability has long been a core part of our business activities at the BDC, prioritising a positive impact on the people in our venue and wider community as well as improving our impact on the planet.

We are now B Corp Certified, showing that we have high standards of environmental and social impact and will continue to grow and develop in line with best practice. As an events venue and tenanted building, we're fortunate to be given a platform to educate, influence and share our knowledge with those who enter our doors as well as working closely alongside the businesses based here. We are constantly striving for ways to benefit the world where we can, and that will remain a key objective of the BDC's focus each year, which we outline in more detail in our current [environmental sustainability policy](#).

For the third year, we have detailed our activities in our annual impact report. This includes updates on targets set in the previous year across the environment, our community and charitable work and our support of the events industry; [Accelerating Our Journey is available on our website](#).

We prioritise many initiatives to improve our environmental impact, including being a certified

CarbonNeutral® Venue since 2010. Over this time we have continued to reduce our carbon footprint year on year, sending zero waste to landfill and making the switch to using 100% renewable electricity, as well as implementing venue efficiency measures, all whilst continuing to offset any residual carbon emissions we cannot avoid through verified projects.

Now, we look to the future and have set out our journey to reach Net-Zero before 2030. Our mission now is to make innovative changes and support businesses in the building and our wider stakeholders on our collective sustainability goals that will see us improve the world we live in. We hope this guide provides an insight into the work we do and how you can join us on this journey.

Through collaboration, we will better affect change, so participate across the borough in a number of local sustainability groups, including those with Angel Islington's Business Improvement District and Islington Council. We believe that with our collective power, we can best learn and share knowledge. The BDC team are receiving training on this topic as part of our ongoing annual development, so please feel free to reach out and talk to us about your ideas or with questions. You will find pointers throughout this guide to some of the content or other people that we work with, but you can always find out more on our [website](#).



Kate Vandenburg
Marketing and Communications Director
BDC London

A B Corp Certified Venue



At the BDC we are on a journey of continual improvement, that's why becoming a B Corp Certified organisation means so much to us.

B Corp Certification shows that a business is meeting high standards of verified performance, accountability, and transparency on factors from employee benefits and charitable giving to environmental impact improvements. In order to achieve certification, a company must undergo a rigorous review of the impact of their operations and business model on their workers, customers, communities and environment – meeting a minimum score across the assessment. Companies must also make a legal commitment by changing their corporate governance structure to be accountable to all stakeholders.

B Corp is a gold standard framework when it comes to holistically operating a business in a way that supports the needs of people today whilst leaving a better world for the people of tomorrow. We undertook certifying with B Corp because it sat so well with the way in which we are already working and gave us a model to build and develop on.

We believe in doing business better. That's why we have been working to support our local community since 1989 through our charitable arm, the Morris Charitable Trust, and why we have been making strides in improving our environmental impact since 2010.

We are proud to be a CarbonNeutral® venue that is aiming to meet Net-Zero before 2030, but it's not just that though, it's about supporting the people that make us the business that we are today.

“This is a huge milestone in the Company's history. To be able to meet the rigorous standards set by the B Corp model shows that we are moving along on exactly the right path when it comes to the way we take care of both our people and the planet. Receiving B Corp status is the next step on our journey of continual improvement across all aspects of our business and one that we are extremely proud to celebrate. We are a purpose-driven business that holds a strong belief in doing things better, for the people under our roof, our community and for the world around us and look forward to working alongside B Corp and the B Corp community.”



Dominic Jones
CEO, BDC London

First Things First



Energy

Since 2019 100% renewable electricity has been used in the venue, a key factor in directly reducing the carbon emissions of the building.

This has been followed by introducing many energy efficiency measures including low energy (LED) lighting, automatic taps, motion sensors in a number of communal areas, as well as a plug and play system for exhibition stands to reduce waste cabling.

We also encourage all staff, tenants and other venue users to switch off any power, air conditioning and heating overnight or when not in use, this helps to avoid unnecessary usage. This is mirrored on shows, where we switch off all power as soon as possible at the end of the show.

Meeting Net-Zero 2030: Our next steps are to reduce then remove our reliance on gas at the venue. This means we need to replace our kitchens and our heating system. The kitchen was refurbished in August 2023, and now no longer relies on gas - it's fully electric.



Waste

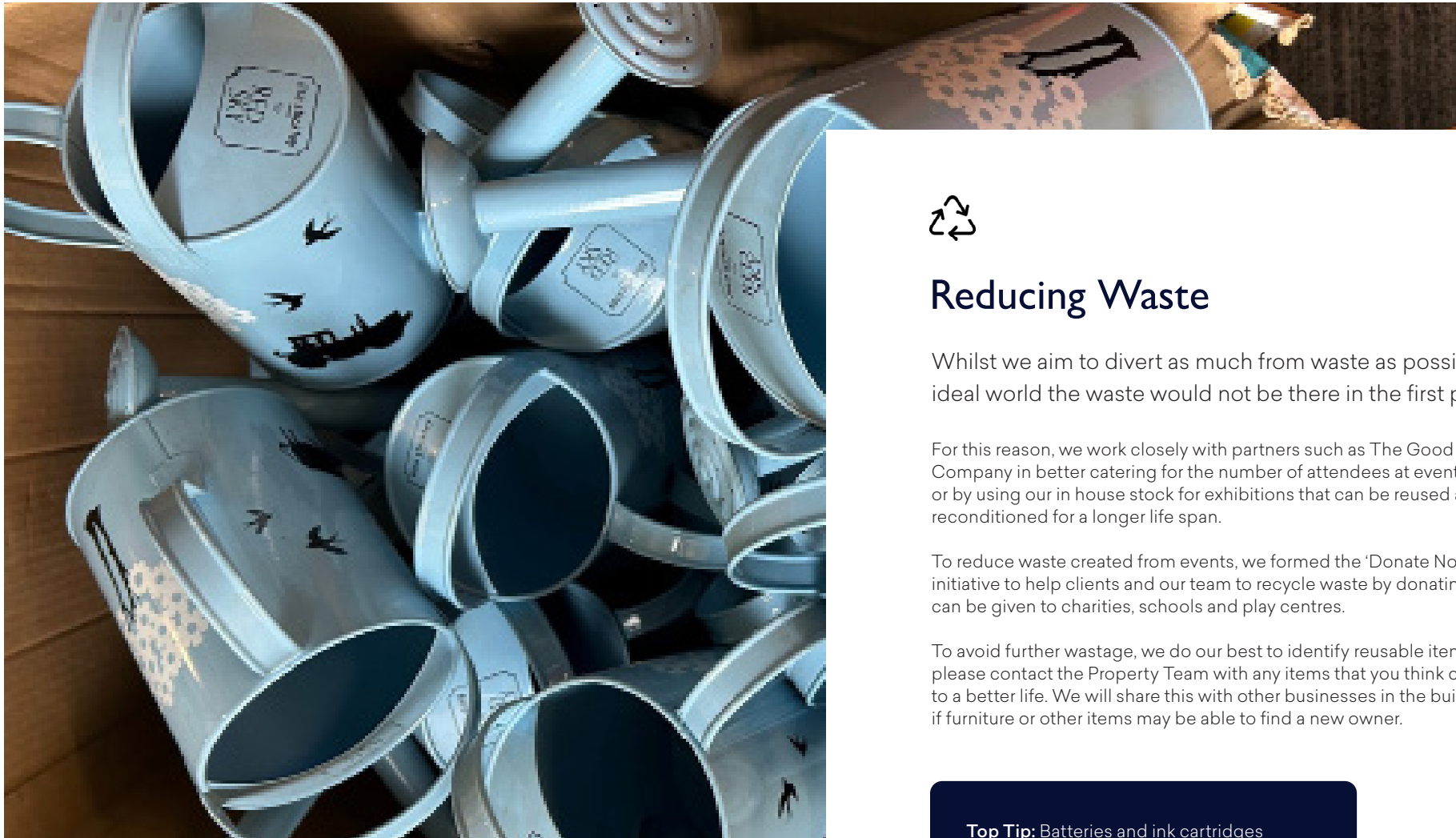
Our key waste commitment that we follow is sending 0% to landfill.

We work closely with the commercial waste team at Islington Council, to ensure our waste is recycled or composted or if it can't be then it's still diverted from landfill by being sent to energy recovery.

Food waste is disposed of and returned to the community by our local borough, as cost price compost for their gardens and allotments. In 2019, our catering partners began removing plastic packaging and using compostable options where takeaway services are provided.

Did you know: The carpet tiles used across our venue spaces are from Interface's programme, Net-Works™, which is run in collaboration with the Zoological Society. Net-Works™ is designed to tackle the growing environmental problem of discarded fishing nets in some of the world's poorest coastal communities and to support Interface's ambitious goals for recycled content for its carpet tile. You can find out more about the project in this [short video](#).





Reducing Waste

Whilst we aim to divert as much from waste as possible, in an ideal world the waste would not be there in the first place.

For this reason, we work closely with partners such as The Good Eating Company in better catering for the number of attendees at events, or by using our in house stock for exhibitions that can be reused and reconditioned for a longer life span.

To reduce waste created from events, we formed the 'Donate Not Waste' initiative to help clients and our team to recycle waste by donating items that can be given to charities, schools and play centres.

To avoid further wastage, we do our best to identify reusable items, so please contact the Property Team with any items that you think could go on to a better life. We will share this with other businesses in the building to see if furniture or other items may be able to find a new owner.

Top Tip: Batteries and ink cartridges can be recycled at the venue. Just drop batteries or cartridges at the front reception and the team will take care of this for you.



A G O O D T H I N G

We are excited to share that we have begun partnering with A Good Thing...



A Good Thing CIC is a platform that allows any form of business of any size to quickly donate to local charities, meaning less is sent to waste and more to a good cause. We have begun working with the team at A Good Thing and have begun to donate items whilst also connecting our residents and events with them too.

Laptops, bags, candles, stationery, gardening equipment, end-of-line clothing, packaging, crafting materials and half-used tins of paint have all been

successfully donated to local charities via the platform... alongside the more traditional items like furniture and IT equipment.

It is really easy for you as a business to get involved: it takes 30 seconds to register for an account and then you can immediately begin listing any surplus items your company no longer needs, donating them to local charities and preventing them from going to waste.

The team at A Good Thing love to see things being saved from the bin and companies can make such a difference to their communities through supporting the wonderful work of local charities. We are delighted to be able to work with A Good Thing to divert reusable items at the venue and on events to go on to a better life; find out more at www.agoodthing.org.uk



Venue Specifics

We have installed a number of measures within the venue to contribute to sustainability. We have water coolers throughout the venue available for all to use, which reduces the use of single-use plastics being brought into the venue.

We have a variety of bins available to separate waste on site. As well as general waste bins we have compostable packaging bins, food waste bins and recycling waste bins. This gives the opportunity for as much to be diverted from energy recovery as possible.

We prefer the use of reusable crockery to be used in the onsite restaurant at Jack's. However, it is important that you ensure any items are left on the crockery collection points or within Jack's so that we can wash and reuse them. If you do take items away then please return these. Similarly, if you are eating in, then request for your hot drinks to be in a reusable mug or cup.

Top Tip: We encourage you to ask your team and visitors to the building to bring their own reusable bottles for water refills and if people bring in keep cups suitable for hot drinks, they will also receive a discount at Jack's.

Did you know? Onsite graphics supplier and BDC residents, Onward Display create our BDC signage and can advise the best solutions for large format printing. They also print onsite, which reduces transport to the building.

Top Tip: Do you have all the bins you need in your office? We recycle cans, glass, paper and card in mixed recycling and can also handle food waste and compostable packaging. General waste goes to energy recovery but we would still like to reduce anything sent there so if you want to discuss the bins you need in your office or showroom, please let us know.





Transport

We aim to reduce the amount of transport to the venue by supporting local suppliers and those based on-site. If you need support with local services for your business then please get in touch and we can aim to connect you.

If you need to provide information to people coming to visit your showroom or office space then you can direct them to our visiting us section on the BDC website, where they can find the best transport links for the building. [Find out more here.](#)

If you are making large or regular deliveries to the venue, it's best to check with the team on the ideal time to make these. Scheduling avoids busier times such as rush hour and will reduce any unnecessary idling and congestion of our local roads.

In addition to our existing EV charging points, we have increased the amount available in the car park and the loading bay.

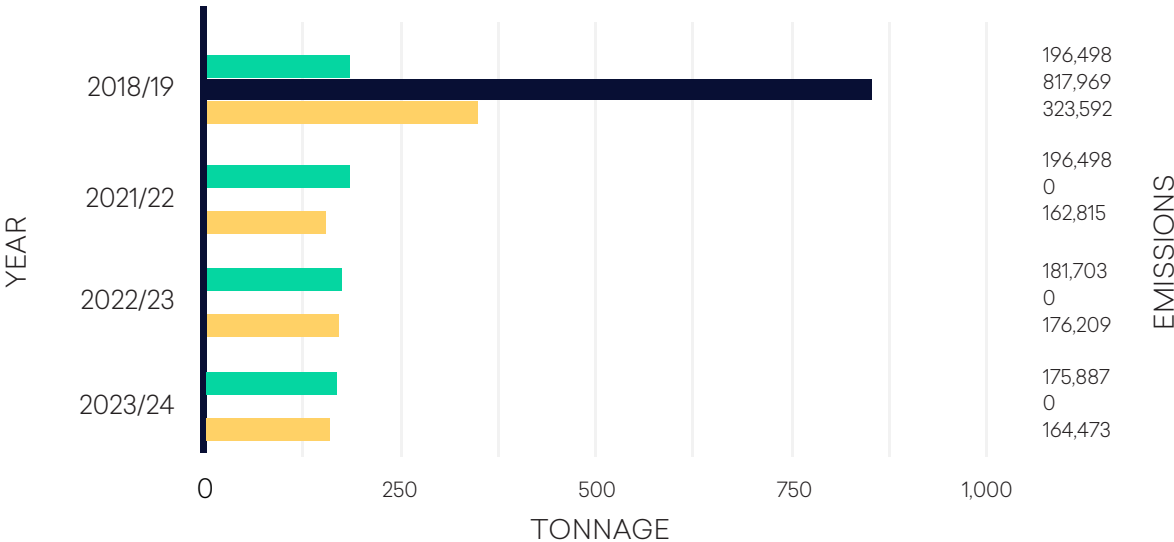
We have two shower facilities located on the middle and ground floor of Stairwell F, so if you would like to cycle to building then you can store your bike free of charge in our car park and use these to freshen up. Guest of tenants are also welcome to use these services.

Measuring our footprint

We have been measuring (and offsetting) our footprint since 2010, having dramatically reduced this since then.

In 2022, we began working with our carbon consultants, ecollective and for the second year worked with them to calculate and refine the measurements of our carbon emissions.

To get started on a journey to Net-Zero, the first thing to do is set your baseline year. This for us was the year, 2018/19. You can take a look at our measurements below.



We offset and will continue to offset all of these emissions each year. This means that we also offset some of the elements that pertain to your office space or showroom, including the following:

- Any type of waste disposed of onsite or from your office or showroom
- The energy used to power the venue your office or showroom
- Water that is used within the building and if you have this in your office or showroom

Working with the CarbonNeutral® Company and Climate Impact Partners, we continue to offset all our measured emissions through verified carbon offsetting projects. We are committed to reducing our footprint each year whilst offsetting any residual emissions and reporting our results transparently so are always happy to talk to you about this.

We understand that measurements are not always perfect, but we commit to improving the accuracy of these every year. You can take a look at the detailed methodology behind [our calculations here >](#)

- = Scope 1 (kg CO2e)
- = Scope 2 (kg CO2e)
- = Scope 3 (kg CO2e)

** Scope 2 is calculated based on the market based method.*

Our Suppliers

We are lucky to have a number of fantastic suppliers, who we have worked with for many years and most of these work from offices right here inside the BDC.

We aim to support our suppliers on their own journeys to net zero and having these close relationships allows us to work together to ensure mutual sustainability goals are achieved. This relationship also allows us to have challenging conversations with our suppliers to reach and exceed our targets.

If you would like to work more closely with us on your own goals or have ideas on how we can improve the way we work with you or as a business, then we welcome these conversations and invite you to get in touch with the team.



The Good Eating Company
Catering Services



Onward Display
Large Format Signage



Aztec Events
Audio Visual Services



Teamwork UK
Facilities Management



Granite Consulting
Internet and Networking



Teamex
Event Security Services



GD Electrics
Electrical Services

Spotlight

A special spotlight on our in-house catering supplier, the **Good Eating Company**. They have designated vegan and vegetarian menus throughout the working week, from Meat Free Mondays to Fish Fridays, and are also a Carbon Neutral Company.

They have many options throughout the week that support the reduction of red meat and increase the number of plant-based options available. Most food is sourced locally and from the surrounding counties and the variety of this is reflected in our catering service. We are moving to a seasonal only food offering at the venue and you can discuss this in detail with the team.

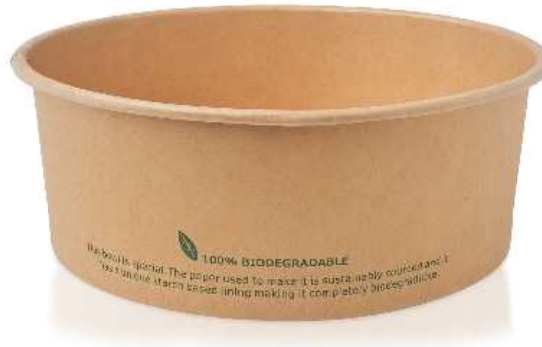




GEC Packaging

Our in-house caterers at the Good Eating Company prioritise the use of reusable glassware, cups, crockery and cutlery. They are however, committed to utilising compostable packaging for food containers and cups, where disposable items are required. On limited items where they cannot currently source this type of packaging, it is recyclable.

Join us in our commitment to removing the use of single use packaging entirely on events, recommending to guests that they bring their own cups and bottles. Please also communicate this to exhibitors, reminding them if they need to provide such items on their events they opt for these product types.



Tips for Resident Businesses



For Teams, Visitors and Suppliers

- Highlight to your teams and guests that we operate as a venue striving to remove single-use plastic as a whole and promote the use of our water refill stations and encouraging people to bring their own bottles.
- Tell suppliers who are delivering that we have EV charging points in the loading bay to use while they unload.
- Remind your team and guests to your office space or showroom that they are able to store bikes and use the shower facilities on site.



Around the Building and Restaurant

- Opt for mugs, cups and crockery when drinking or dining at Jack's or if you're staying for a meeting. This helps us to reduce unnecessary disposable waste.
- Guests to the venue will also get a discount for using reusable cups in the onsite restaurant at Jack's.





In the Office

- Reduce your energy use and your bills by switching off lights, appliances and air conditioning or heating when they aren't needed.
- Replacing your lighting? Opt for LED or low energy lighting options that will save you electricity and cut down on your bills too.
- Think about ways to reduce the amount of waste generated in your office or showroom, such as cutting down on single-use or disposable items.
- Consider removing individual waste bins and have one for each waste stream – this contributes to better levels of recycling. We can support you if you want more help with this.
- When it comes to printing, check your paper is not linked to deforestation. If you do need to print, then check the paper you are using is 100% recycled or FSC certified.
- Create a link with A Good Thing or another route to divert reusables from waste – our team has the ability and connections to assist in any donations to local charities or businesses, so always consider these options before sending items to waste. If you want to discuss this further, please get in touch.
- For larger items, reach out to the Property Team at the BDC to see if there are other tenants who may want to repurpose items onsite.



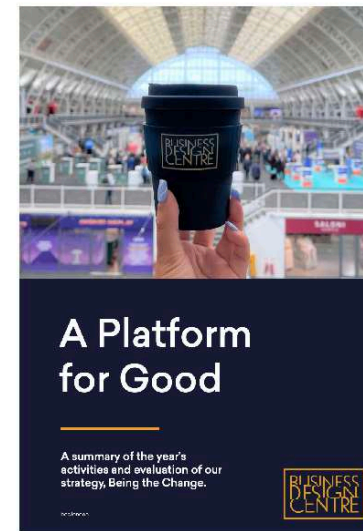
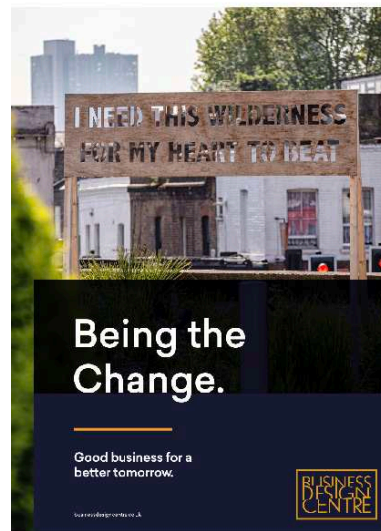
Collaborate more closely

- If you have a sustainability policy we would love for you to share this with us, and if you would like help to create one, then please ask the team. Our current policy can be found here: [bdc.london/eventsustainabilityguide](https://www.bdc.london/eventsustainabilityguide)
- Have a more sustainable product or solution that you'd like to share with us? Collaboration is key and we'd love to hear about it.
- Thinking of measuring your total carbon footprint? We work with ecollective who can help to do this – find their details on the resources page.
- Something not working in the building? Please report anything we might have missed so that we can fix it.
- Would you like to work more closely with the BDC team? You can send a member of the team to join our sustainability group – ask the Property Team for more information.

Our Impact Reports

Each year we publish details on our impact as a venue, in 2022 we shared **'Being the Change'** and in 2023, we published **'A Platform for Good'**.

You can find the latest report [here](#) and 2022's report [here](#).



Further Resources

If you need further guidance or help, please find some helpful frameworks and organisations here, or visit:

bdc.london/sustainability

The logo for ecollective, featuring the word "ecollective" in a sans-serif font with a small green leaf icon integrated into the letter "o".

ecollective



CarbonNeutral Company



Climate Impact Partners



BDC London

Find Out More

We are continuously looking to improve the way that we work collaboratively with all of those who use the venue and will continue to work alongside professional bodies and industry experts to evaluate and progress our sustainability journey.

We should all take responsibility and accountability for our own impact on this journey, so why not work together on aligned goals to save our planet.

If you would like to get in touch with us about our work, how we could work collaboratively or provide any feedback, then please email us at: environmentalimpact@bdc.london – we would love to hear from you.



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