

### Challenges:

GVA undertook a full carbon review of its operations and analysed its 2023–24 carbon footprint, providing a baseline to improve sustainability.

One of the biggest challenges identified was the significant impact of plant and vehicle emissions. To address this, GVA is undertaking a comparison exercise to assess the compatibility of hydrotreated vegetable oil (HVO) biofuel with existing assets. Early estimates suggest this could reduce carbon emissions by over 98%. A trial is scheduled to launch later in 2025.

Another key challenge has been upskilling staff and encouraging behavioural change. In response, training and communications have been issued to highlight the impact of vehicle idling and educate employees. GVA's company motto, 'Your Environment, Our Responsibility', is now embedded in all inductions and training programmes to promote a positive carbon culture from the outset.

### Impact:

The Supply Chain Sustainability School has enabled GVA's senior management and wider workforce to access high-quality training across a range of sustainability topics. This has supported personal development and facilitated adoption of new working practices.

The benchmarking tool has been particularly valuable, allowing GVA to assess its knowledge against that of other School users and highlight areas for improvement.

Positive outcomes include:

- Certification to PAS 2080:2023
- Implementation of the Avoid, Switch, Improve carbon hierarchy.
- Roll-out of the GVA Carbon Footprint tool for Scope 1 and 2 emissions analysis using on-site reporting and fuel card data.

This enables GVA to generate accurate client reports, identify reduction opportunities, and drive continuous improvement.

### Value gained:

The Supply Chain Sustainability School has enabled GVA's senior management and wider workforce to access high-quality training across a range of sustainability topics. This has supported personal development and facilitated adoption of new working practices.

The benchmarking tool has been particularly valuable, allowing GVA to assess its knowledge against that of other School users and highlight areas for improvement.

### Fact box



#### Company

Green Valley Arborists Ltd (GVA)

#### No of employees

40

#### HQ

Halifax, West Yorkshire

#### Website

[www.gva-trees.com](http://www.gva-trees.com)

#### Main contact

[info@gva-trees.com](mailto:info@gva-trees.com)

#### Services

Tree works, vegetation management, planting, landscaping, ecology and fencing

#### About

*GVA is a landscape and ecology company based in West Yorkshire, specialising in tree works, vegetation management and fencing for individual and commercial needs. Environmental awareness is one of their main values and they strive to protect flora, fauna, wildlife and habitats, reduce their impact and enhance local areas*

Positive outcomes include:

- Certification to PAS 2080:2023
- Implementation of the Avoid, Switch, Improve carbon hierarchy
- Roll-out of the GVA Carbon Footprint tool for Scope 1 and 2 emissions analysis using on-site reporting and fuel card data

This enables GVA to generate accurate client reports, identify reduction opportunities, and drive continuous improvement.

### ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Members of GVA's management team have attended a range of engagement events, including Customer, Carbon, Waste and Biodiversity sessions. These have allowed senior leaders to stay informed of evolving best practice and apply relevant insights across business operations.

### RESOURCES

- The School's assessments have been a valuable tool for measuring current knowledge and identifying priority learning areas.
- Action plans have guided practical improvements and helped align sustainability goals with daily operations.
- E-learning modules have been especially impactful, offering flexible, high-quality training to staff at all levels, enhancing GVA's capability to deliver sustainable practices across its projects.

### Future proofing:

#### Membership of the Supply Chain Sustainability School has enabled GVA to

- Collaborate with other members.
- Promote sustainability learning across the organisation.
- Provide all staff with access to reliable, up-to-date training and guidance.

Looking ahead, GVA intends to attend further engagement events and collaborate more closely with supply chain partners. This will support continuous improvement, strengthen relationships, and help meet growing client sustainability expectations.

GVA plans to increase access to the School's flexible online training for its wider workforce and promote the platform through its website, social media and internal communications.