Port of Aberdeen Charting a sustainable future



Port of Aberdeen's vision is to become Scotland's premier net zero port at the heart of the nation's energy transition. **We must be bold and ambitious to achieve this.**

That's why we're investing £55 million over the next 10 years to become the UK's first net zero port by 2040.

Strong partnerships and investment across the public and private sectors are essential to deliver this transformational change.

The port has been operating for almost 900 years and this could be the biggest challenge, and opportunity, in our history.

I look forward to working with our stakeholders on this journey which will deliver significant benefits for the environment, local community, and wider society.

Bob Sanguinetti, CEO



Supporting the energy transition

which guides projects, investment, and decision-making:

Net zero strategy

Port of Aberdeen's net zero strategy has three workstreams



Reducing emissions in the port



Facilitating future fuels

Scoping our emissions

Scope 1

Direct emissions such as company owned vessels and fuel used in equipment, machinery, and company cars.



Indirect emissions from the generation of purchased energy including electricity, heat, steam, and cooling.



All other indirect emissions occurring upstream and downstream of the port's supply chain, such as client vessels, leased assets, water and waste.

Setting a baseline

Port of Aberdeen has established a baseline using emissions data from 2019.

As well as measuring total emissions, a carbon intensity metric has been developed based on gross vessel tonnage.

The port will rebaseline its emissions once Aberdeen South Harbour has been fully operational for 12 months.

Emissions by scope Breakdown by scope 1, 2 and 3



55,000 tonnes of CO2equivalent in 2019

Carbon Intensity – Marine Traffic



Additionally, the port is measuring performance against a carbon intensity metric based on gross vessel tonnage.

Progress to date

Port of Aberdeen is already taking sustained action to reduce its impact on the environment:



Initiated change out of company vehicles to electric, saving at least 3,400 litres of diesel each year.



Installed LED lighting on the quayside, delivering a 54% reduction in kWh.



Completed a UK Government funded feasibility study into introducing shore power at North Harbour, which paved the way for two ongoing projects.



Ongoing UK Government funded project 'Port Zero' – a feasibility study focused on decarbonising day-to-day operations at the port.



Collaborating with industry partners, such as bp, Subsea 7 and Stillstrom, on innovative maritime decarbonisation projects.

Immediate focus areas

Over the next 12 months, we are focused on:



Completing feasibility testing and implementation of hydrotreated vegetable oil for port handling equipment, machinery, and vessels.



Procuring a renewable electricity tariff, with initial feasibility and cost-analysis exercises planned for the implementation of onsite clean energy.



Implementing shore power at three berths, with suitability analysis planned for the phased approach to installing across remaining berths.



Accelerating the switch to electric company cars and reviewing the suitability and timeframe for transferring plant and machinery to low carbon alternatives.



Engaging with stakeholders such as vessel owners, employees, and tenants to collaboratively make steps in carbon mitigation.

Forward planning

Medium to long-term emissions reductions may be driven by:



Electrification of all port owned and controlled vessels, cars, equipment, and machinery.

Implementation of onsite clean energy or a clean energy purchase power agreement to service port controlled buildings, tenant occupied facilities and shore power.



Phased rollout of shore power to remaining berths.



Facilitating low carbon fuel alternatives for client vessels.



Reviewing innovations, technological advancements and promote stakeholder engagement to identify carbon emission reduction opportunities.



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