



RAVENGLASS AND ESKDALE RAILWAY

2026

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

Good environmental stewardship is central to meeting the expectations of all who enjoy the Ravenglass & Eskdale Railway, and to securing our long-term success as a business. We are committed to embedding responsible and proactive sustainable practices into every aspect of our operations.

We comply with — and where possible exceed — national environmental legislation and regulations, supporting the environmental objectives of the Lake District National Park and the two UNESCO World Heritage Sites in which we operate.

We will continually identify, manage, and reduce the environmental impacts of our activities across the business, focusing on the efficient use of resources, energy, and fuel; minimising waste and emissions; and preventing pollution.

Protect the Landscape and Heritage

Our railway runs through some of the most beautiful scenery in England. We are committed to preserving and enhancing this landscape through environmental management planning and sustainable forestry practices along the railway and around our stations. We will consider environmental sustainability in all new buildings and developments, ensuring high standards of design that are sympathetic to the Lake District National Park. We will increase awareness of our sustainable practices among visitors and staff, and continue to support conservation groups through visitor donation schemes.

Reduce Carbon

Our operations rely on coal, diesel, and electricity, and we will continue to measure and monitor our consumption of these energy sources. We will work towards calculating and achieving a net zero carbon target by 2037 through improved energy efficiency, increased use of renewable energy, and appropriate carbon offsetting.

Water

We will measure and manage water use across our facilities, including washrooms and kitchens, and seek to reduce consumption through proactive communication with visitors and employees. Our steam locomotives use significant quantities of water, and we will work to reduce this through improved design and operating practices where feasible.

Reduce Waste

We will monitor and improve our waste hierarchy as we move towards becoming a zero-waste business. We will ensure that the majority of waste we generate is reused or recycled to minimise landfill. We aim to keep the railway litter-free and will encourage visitors to use bins and recycling facilities at our stations. All hazardous waste will be disposed of in compliance with national regulations. We will monitor food waste in our cafés, measuring preparation, spoilage, and plate waste to identify reduction opportunities.

Encourage Sustainable Travel

Our railway is part of the national rail network and, working with Northern Trains and other transport partners, we will encourage visitors to access the Lake District in a low-carbon, sustainable way. We will promote use of the railway through integrated and incentive-based ticketing, and support sustainable travel to and around the valley, including EV use and new bus routes connecting the Cumbrian coastline. EV charging points are available at Ravenglass and Dalegarth stations.

Source Locally and Sustainably

Where possible, we will source food and drink served in our cafés, and goods sold in our shops, from local and sustainable suppliers. We have strengthened our local supplier policy and, where practical, will source ingredients within Cumbria.

Environmental Education

Our railway provides enjoyment for more than 100,000 visitors each year. We recognise our responsibility to help guests appreciate and understand the importance of the natural environment of the Eskdale Valley. We will maintain a dedicated responsible tourism page on our website, provide local information on walking and cycling routes, and develop events and activities with local and national conservation partners such as the RSPB, the Lake District National Park, and Cumbria Wildlife Trust. We will support continuous improvement through our Green Teams and participation in national accreditation schemes.



We will review progress against these commitments annually and continually improve our environmental performance.

