

Decarbonisation Stocktake Summary Report

September 2025



This report summarises our **Decarbonisation Stocktake**, which reviews the progress we've made toward our 2045 emissions target and the actions we need to take next.

Key Findings

A promising start, but further progress to be made

Emissions fell faster than planned due to the pandemic, but the rate of reduction has slowed. To meet 2045 targets (set out in our Decarbonisation Strategy) **annual reductions now need to accelerate.**

Investing in EV Charging

To grow the EV charging network faster, public investment is needed to reduce risk for private companies and the cost for users. This includes addressing the VAT disparity between home and public charging, as well as making other national policy and regulatory changes.

An opportunity for the North

Decarbonisation is an opportunity for the North to thrive both socially and economically. By creating better-connected places, it could improve public health and support local growth. Investing in clean growth sectors like EV manufacturing and hydrogen could create up to 168,000 jobs and attract significant private investment, while more sustainable travel choices could lead to over £6 billion in annual health savings.

Increasing travel choices

We need to invest in local bus services to improve travel choices in all our places. The biggest cumulative benefits can be gained in cities and urban areas where increased bus use will not only help reduce emissions but also provide significant public health and social inclusion benefits.

Reducing car dependency

We need national policy and devolved funding that addresses regional investment disparities to support local efforts to reduce car dependency. Mayors and local leaders should be empowered to drive this shift, with the wider benefits like improved public health and social inclusion considered in decision-making.

Our messages for national policy makers

→ **Fund the future**

We need more public investment in EV charging to encourage private sector growth, along with changes to reduce costs like VAT disparities.

→ **Support local transport**

Invest in local bus services, recognising their value beyond just transport—they improve public health and social inclusion.

→ **Empower the North**

Give our mayoral combined authorities, county combined authorities and local transport authorities the funding and power to make local decisions that support a shift away from car dependency, acknowledging the wider benefits this provides.

How can we meet our 2045 targets?

Our analysis shows that no single approach is enough to reach our goals. A strategy that relies only on technology, like a rapid shift to electric vehicles, will not be sufficient. Likewise, a focus solely on changing travel habits, like using public transport more, won't get us there either.

The most effective option is a blended approach. We need to accelerate the adoption of zero-emission technologies while also expanding affordable, reliable alternatives to car travel. To stay on track, the pace of change in both areas must increase.

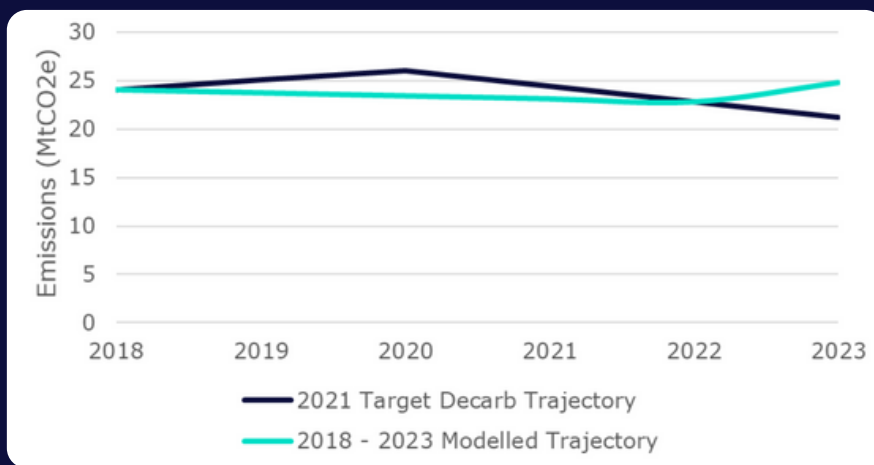


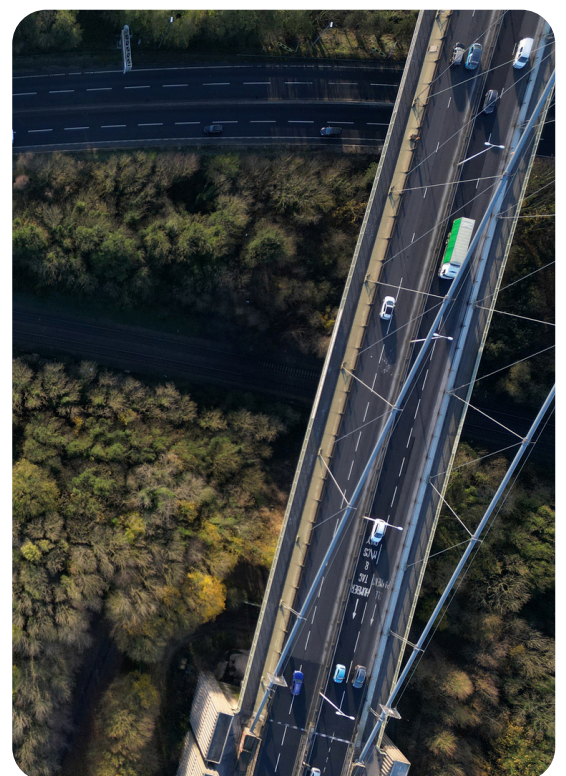
Figure 10: Historic emissions between 2018 and 2023

How TfN will support the transition

Transport for the North is committed to working with our partners to deliver a fairer, more sustainable transport system for all.

We will support our partners to achieve the region's 2045 transport emissions targets by:

- Championing national policy and advocating for investment in the North
- Coordinating regional collaboration and knowledge sharing
- Providing robust regional analysis and decision-making tools.



What next?

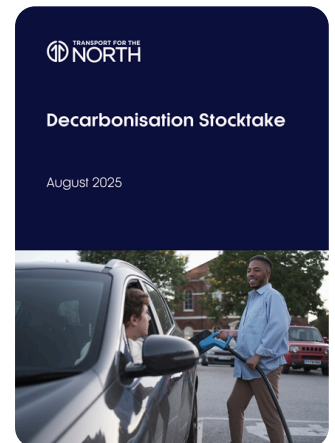
Transport for the North works with mayoral combined authorities, county combined authorities, local transport authorities and national partners to support transport improvements, unlocking sustainable and inclusive growth. We have a number of ways that we can help partners to achieve their aims.

Decarbonisation Stocktake

Download the [main report](#) that accompanies this publication.

[Decarbonisation Stocktake](#) - provides an update on progress towards the region's 2045 transport emissions target and Decarbonisation Trajectory. It also consolidates evidence to support fair transition principles, helping constituent authorities and national government shape inclusive, effective policy.

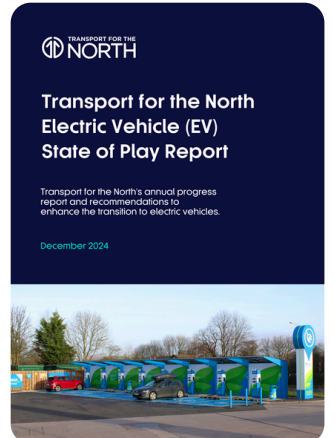
To access our range of carbon reduction tools visit our [website](#).



EV State of Play Report

This report is Transport for the North's annual progress report on EV transition, aiming to monitor progress and highlight recommendations to government.

Download our latest [EV State of Play Report](#) and access our [EVCI framework tool](#).



TfN Offer

The TfN Offer is our data and evidence resource hub. Available to constituent authorities and other partners in the north, we can provide technical services, advice, analysis, modelling and planning tools.

For more information on how we can help to support our Local Authority partners, please contact us at TfNOffer@transportfornorth.com

Bronze: Self-serve

Free access to tools, dashboards, and data you can use right away.

Silver: Tailored help

Free custom analysis and insights specifically for your projects.

Gold: Bespoke support

Dedicated one-to-one help from our experts for your complex projects.