

# Sustainability STRATEGY

2023



PERTH CONVENTION AND  
EXHIBITION CENTRE



Photograph Jarrad Seng

# Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre Sustainability Strategy

Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre recognises the importance of our environmental and corporate social responsibility and acknowledges our role within the community by creating sustainable practices.

We strive to deliver responsible environmental events management and use sustainable innovation wherever possible to reduce our environmental footprint to provide better community outcomes.

To ensure these practices are carried throughout the organisation, our staff receive appropriate training and access to resources that empower them to contribute toward achieving our environmental and sustainability objectives.

We promise to make continuous improvements across the venue to be recognised as a leader in sustainability management.

## Acknowledgment of Country

*Perth Convention Exhibition Centre respects and acknowledges the Whadjuk Noongar people who remain the spiritual and cultural owners of the land upon which our venue stands.*

*Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre honour the significant role they play for our community and we pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.*





## Kendra Naidoo

*GM of Venue Operations  
Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre*

Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre has a strong commitment to ensuring a sustainable future for our community and surrounding environment in the City of Perth. We have created a number of sustainability targets and designed a strategy to achieve these which align closely with eight of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

The beautiful city of Perth in which we reside and the people who call this place home are at the heart of why we have put a strong emphasis on our Sustainability Strategy. Our visitors are what makes Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre the wonderful place it is, and we strive to do our best by them, by doing the right thing for the environment to positively impact our future.

Our people are passionate about succeeding to achieve these goals and continuously suggest innovative ways to lessen our carbon footprint. We regularly consult about these suggestions and often implement them into our daily practices. It's inspiring to have the team at PCEC committed to making change and join together as we become a more sustainable community.

We currently partner with some outstanding organisations which give back to our community in the forms of food and waste recycling, employment opportunities and indigenous relations. Over the coming years, we look forward to partnering with more likeminded organisations and initiatives.

The operations of the venue's sustainable targets are governed by our parent company, Downer, maintaining accountability and commitment to creating sustainable practices and reducing our carbon footprint.

The next few years are crucial for all businesses to step up and do the right thing regarding environmental sustainability. We are making a serious commitment to achieve our goals and continue to improve our practices to ensure better outcomes for our community.

### Kendra Naidoo

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## Sustainable Development

The management of the centre is part of a larger organisation, Downer.

Downer established a Decarbonisation plan in 2008 and continues to drive initiatives to improve its carbon footprint.

As part of the Downer Group, we align with their commitment to **environmental sustainability** "... providing value to our customers, delivering our services in a safe and environmentally responsible manner, helping our people to be better and advancing the communities in which we operate."

## The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

[www.sdgs.un.org/goals](http://www.sdgs.un.org/goals)

All members of the United Nations (including Australia) have adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, it provides a roadmap for taking responsibility of our people and our planet. "At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership."





SUSTAINABILITY

## The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

PCEC and Downer have reviewed the 17 goals and the below 12 are where we feel best reflect our strategy and where we can contribute most effectively.

- 2. Zero Hunger**
- 3. Good Health and Well Being**
- 6. Clean Water and Sanitation**
- 10. Reduced Inequalities**
- 11. Sustainable Cities and Communities**
- 12. Responsible Consumption and Production**
- 13. Climate Action**
- 17. Partnerships for the Goals**

Downer is also focused on:

- 5. Gender Equality**
- 7. Affordable and Clean Energy**
- 8. Decent Work and Economic Growth**
- 11. Industry, innovation and infrastructure**

Downer has a dedicated team to develop systems and drive sustainability across the business. This involves working closely with their clients and business partners.

Objectives identified in Downer Group's business plans include Key Performance Indicators determined to be crucial to the management of environmental sustainability within the company's operations.

Downer's Environmental and Sustainability strategy highlights the following:

- Downer has committed to reduce our Scope 1 and 2 greenhouse gas emissions by 45-50% by 2035 and be net zero by 2050. This commitment was registered with the SBTi on 21st March 2021.
- Downer is well positioned to contribute to Australia and New Zealand's energy transition that is essential for the broader economy to decarbonise.
- Downer's clear pathway to net zero is aligned to its Urban Service Strategy. Focus areas include:
  1. Divesting from high capital, carbon intensive industries to lower carbon activities
  2. Continue to focus on energy efficiency and GHG emission reductions
  3. Decarbonise our fixed assets with new technology and fuel switching
  4. Decarbonise Downer's fleet through EVs and alternate fuel vehicles
  5. Increase uptake of renewables both on and off-grid
  6. Reducing Scope 3 emissions i.e. low carbon materials e.g. asphalt and working with suppliers to lower their emissions

PCEC is accountable to drive sustainability and support the targets and strategy outlined by the organisation. The sustainability team continues to measure sustainability performance via energy consumption and conducts various audits (internal and external) to demonstrate continuous improvement.



SUSTAINABILITY

## EEAA Sustainable Events 2030 Pledge



[www.eeaa.com.au/sustainability](http://www.eeaa.com.au/sustainability)

We are proud to be a part of the Exhibition & Event Association of Australasia Sustainable Events Pledge 2030.

The program has identified the following collaborative commitments, with goals to be achieved by the end of 2023 and 2025 across the following seven key impact areas during the planning and delivery of exhibitions and events:

- Exhibitor waste
- Attendee waste
- Food & beverage
- Staging, signage & promotions
- Custom stands
- Logistics Audio / Visual equipment

We strive to deliver responsible environmental events management and use sustainable innovation wherever possible to reduce our environmental footprint and provide better community outcomes. We have implemented the EEAA Carbon Footprint tool to identify areas where we can reduce the impact of an event.

As part of the pledge we are committing to

- Annual reporting
- Participation in training
- Participation in grant funding applications
- Act as advocates in the broader events industry of the Pledge and of sustainable event delivery
- Work with fellow Pledge Signatories to push for collective action

## EarthCheck



[www.earthcheck.org/](http://www.earthcheck.org/)

PCEC is committed to its sustainability achievements and recognises the standards set by EarthCheck as being the world's leading benchmark for sustainable certification. To achieve recognition in this area is a combined effort from all of our stakeholders making it a priority across our organisation.

Our goal is to elevate our EarthCheck status from Bronze to Silver over the next 12 months, striving for gold status by 2028 (as per EarthCheck's program) as we promote environmental awareness to not only our employees, clients and visitors but to the wider community also.



# Key Highlights



## Waste

- Separate waste bins, clearly labelled to encourage visitors to use appropriate bin for waste disposal
- Educate staff to use appropriate disposal
- All of our food waste and coffee grounds go to compost
- We collect the following waste
  - General Waste
  - Comingled Recycling
  - Paper & Cardboard
  - Organics
  - Packaging
  - Glass bottles
  - Cooking Oil
  - Hazardous
  - Batteries
  - Toner Cartridges
  - E-waste



## Food & Beverage

- We use local produce where possible as this reduces food miles and associated energy emissions.
- We use local suppliers where possible, to support local businesses and encourage local engagement amongst the community.
- Food Signage on buffets highlighting what happens to our organic waste.



## Partnerships

- We choose to work with environmentally responsible suppliers, products and services.
- PCEC partners with local organisation [Containers for Change](#). We donate 10c for every drink container recycled and then donate the money to a nominated charity **During 2022 we raised funds for Ronald McDonald House and St John Giving.**
- PCEC have teamed up with [OzHarvest](#) – a food rescue organisation who collect food going to waste and deliver it to those in need. We are proud to contribute our excess food items to OzHarvest to help those less fortunate. **In 2022 we donated 1,569kgs of nourishing food to help those in need.**





# Key Highlights



## Transport

- Our centrally located venue is in a prime position for our event attendees to utilise the many public transportation options available to them. The Elizabeth Quay Bus and Train Station and Elizabeth Quay Ferry are all situated at our doorstep and we encourage their use to our employees and visitors to further reduce our carbon footprint.



## Charity

- We support fundraising events that are hosted at PCEC through relevant and appropriate means, on a bespoke basis.



## Community

- PCEC is located in the ancient country of the Whadjuk Nyoongar people, who have been the Traditional Owners of the south west of Western Australia for at least 45,000 years. We acknowledge the people of the Whadjuk Nyoongar nation and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.
- We encourage an Acknowledgement of Country for events held at PCEC and provide information to clients who wish to engage a First Nations representative for a Welcome to Country cultural experience.
- We have a long-standing relationship with Stanley College Cert III Commercial Cookery students to attend 10 weeks practical training, occasionally resulting in employment opportunities at PCEC. **In 2022 we had 475 students come through PCEC for their training.**





# Sustainable Suppliers

We are committed to a more sustainable supply network and encourage our preferred suppliers to share their goals and stories.

## AVPartners

AVPartners is actively committed to improving the environmental performance of its business operations with the following goals:

- Integrate environmental impact as a factor in business decisions
- Work in consultation with suppliers, and clients to be environmentally responsible
- Promote a positive culture by implementing initiatives that foster sustainable innovation
- Optimise our services to improve our environmental sustainability performance

## Perth Expo Hire

Perth Expo Hire are making their commitment to sustainability through the following efforts:

- Printing - HP Latex Technology carries a broad set of credentials addressing the full spectrum of environmental concerns; from ink chemistry and indoor air quality for both print production and display, to lifecycle considerations overall
- Electrical - actively upgrading electrical equipment and in house power and lighting to meet future demands in order to assist with meeting emissions targets
- Custom Stands - offering exhibitors the option to hire a range of custom stands from stock. In some cases these stands have been utilised on ten occasions making a significant saving on land fill

- Corflute Fascias - moved from PVC non-recyclable fascias to corflute (recyclable) fascia with environmentally acceptable inks

## Phenomenon Creative Event Services

Phenomenon Event Services is always committed to operating in a sustainable manner.

The nature of their business is inherently sustainable. At their core they recycle and reuse their products hundreds of times at events. They offer a sustainable option for clients, where they can hire pieces for use, rather than invest in pieces for a one-off purpose.

Their key sustainability practices include but are not limited to:

- The business owns an electric vehicle
- They run a 15kW solar system to power their offices and warehouses
- Keeping energy usage low e.g. making use of low energy LED light bulbs in their facility
- Purchase products with a lower environmental impact
- Recycling equipment that is no longer of use to the company



## Running with Thieves

Running with Thieves is committed to reducing its carbon footprint by working internally and with their suppliers. To achieve this goal, they have implemented various measures:

- Bulk buying their grain and storing it in a silo to reduce packaging
- Partnered with Richgro Fertilisers to convert the collected spent yeast and hops into fertilizer
- Retain the spent grain and utilize it for cattle feed
- Use recycled plastic for all our plastic packaging, including pallet wrapping
- Switched to cans over bottles due to their significant environmental benefits
- Designed and implemented a heat loop for their transfer water, which recaptures the heat and liquid and turns it back into brewing water
- Looking ahead, the majority of their electricity consumption will be generated from solar power in 2023

## AlSCO

AlSCO has always been a recycler. Repurposing of product at the end of useful rental life has been a core principle of the business, with the following goals:

- 'Carbon Neutral' or 'Net Zero' deliveries
  - "Our goal by 2030 is to convert a third of our vehicle fleet to full electric vehicles."
- Impact on Planet reduced
  - "Our goal by 2030 is to reduce water use by a third"
  - "Our goal by 2030 is to generate zero waste"
- Industry Leadership

Read more of their story here

[www.alsco.com.au/sustainability/](http://www.alsco.com.au/sustainability/)



# Our Sustainability Targets



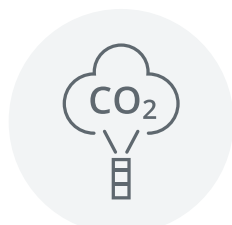
Replace 90% of venue lights with **LED options** by 2025.



**Develop a guide for sustainable events** that is sent to all stakeholders to follow.



Further engagement with our **First Nations people** to exhibit their culture and contributions to the land we reside on.



Reduce our net **carbon emissions to zero** by 2030.



**Minimise printing by 50%** in FY24.



Encourage exhibitors to use **only recyclable materials** during events

# TARGETS