



SWINTON ESTATE

SUSTAINABILITY
REPORT
2026

www.swintonestate.com

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SUSTAINABILITY IS MORE THAN A WORD

Over the past year, we are proud of the continued progress we have made at Swinton Estate in placing sustainability at the centre of everything we do. This has been a year of both achievement and growing confidence in the direction we are taking.

Gaining Wildlife Farms and Estates accreditation is a particularly important milestone, recognising the care and commitment of our team in managing the landscape responsibly and enhancing biodiversity across the estate. Alongside this, we have continued to develop our ecoservices, demonstrating how the estate can deliver real environmental value whilst remaining commercially resilient.

It has also been encouraging to see the Nourish Programme gain traction beyond the estate, with more local and regional businesses embracing its principles and strengthening our shared approach to responsible sourcing and sustainability.

There is still much to do, but the past 12 months gives us great confidence that we are building something purposeful, enduring, and relevant for the future.

The 4th Earl and Countess of Swinton

24 STAFF MEMBERS HAVE COMPLETED CARBON LITERACY TRAINING



ACHIEVEMENTS

SWINTON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



Welcoming more than 25,000 visitors annually, Swinton Estate incorporates sustainability into every aspect of its leisure experience.

Over the past 12 months, our efforts have earned us local and national recognition, including awards for sustainable tourism, environmental innovation, and biodiversity protection. These include Hospitality Firm of the Year at the UK Green Business Awards and the Sustainable Tourism Award at the Yorkshire Post Tourism Awards.

We secured funding from North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC) for Carbon Literacy training for Organisations in 2025. Employees who complete the course become certified as Carbon Literate, while the business itself is recognised as a Carbon Literate Organisation. To date, we have delivered this training to a large proportion of our workforce.

We have begun discussions around introducing a Sustainability in Hospitality A-Level qualification. This is planned for autumn 2026, in partnership with the Local Council. Our CFI Awarding Level 3 Award in Regenerative and Sustainable Hospitality is the first qualification of its kind in the North of the UK.



A highlight last year was receiving our Wildlife Farms and Estates (WFE) Level 2 accreditation for biodiversity excellence. We are the only estate in Yorkshire to have this recognition. We join six other estates at Level 2 across England, and another 64 in Scotland.



Procurement

A renewed focus on supplier engagement has resulted in many more suppliers sign up to Swinton's Sustainable Purchasing Charter which outlines our commitment to sustainable and socially responsible purchasing. By developing this over the years it will help us make better purchasing decisions, supporting our sustainability goals and reduce the impact of our operations. In turn committing to sustainable purchasing, we can support suppliers who prioritise sustainability and encourage the adoption of environmental practices throughout the supply chain.

River Burn

Last Autumn we carried out a fish survey on the River Burn. The results were trout numbers in the river look very healthy, with lots of juvenile fish caught from all three sites and bigger fish up to a maximum size of 265mm. We submitted plans for the Water Restoration Fund bid. This was for a water monitoring project along the River Burn. Although the application was unsuccessful, it has helped establish the framework for a future project involving self-testing water quality at set locations on the River Burn throughout the year.



Ousewem Partnership

Swinton Estate has partnered with Ousewem to scope an innovative natural flood management project along the Swinney Beck. In autumn 2025, Ousewem partnered with the Nidderdale National Landscape team to host a hands-on event at High Sutton Farm on the Swinton Estate. Farmers explored aeration and subsoiling techniques and discussed what works best for different land types. With compacted soils driving waterlogging and runoff, restoring soil structure can improve yields while reducing flooding downstream.



Herbal Ley

We established a Herbal Ley at the BioHub to maximise the benefits of diverse grassland systems. The varied root structures help improve soil resilience, increase water infiltration and encourage greater biodiversity within the sward. Once established, the area is cut to produce haylage bales, which are fed to the deer in the park during winter. Following the harvest, the land is paddock grazed using electric fencing and sheep. This rotational grazing approach mimics the natural movement of wild herds across a landscape, combining short periods of intensive grazing with longer recovery periods to improve both soil health and the condition of the sward.

A person wearing a yellow cap, a blue long-sleeved shirt, and green waders is standing in a river, fishing. The person is holding a long, thin fishing rod that is curved in a large arc. The river is surrounded by dense green trees and foliage. The water is dark and has some ripples. The sky is overcast.

RECENT POSITIVE SURVEYS
INDICATE LOW NUTRIENT
LOADING AND NEUTRAL PH
IN OUR RIVERS

WATER QUALITY



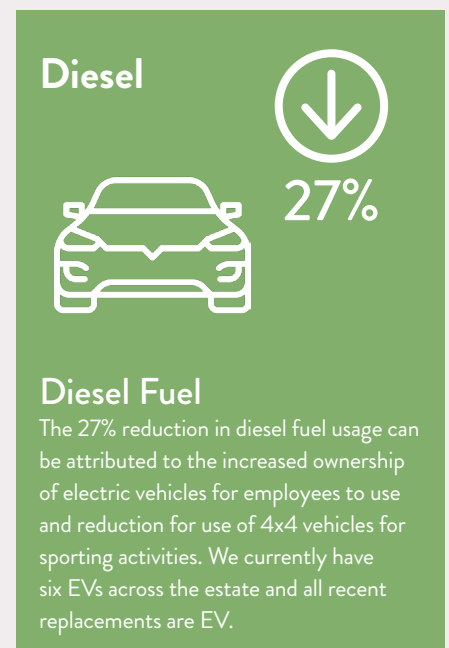
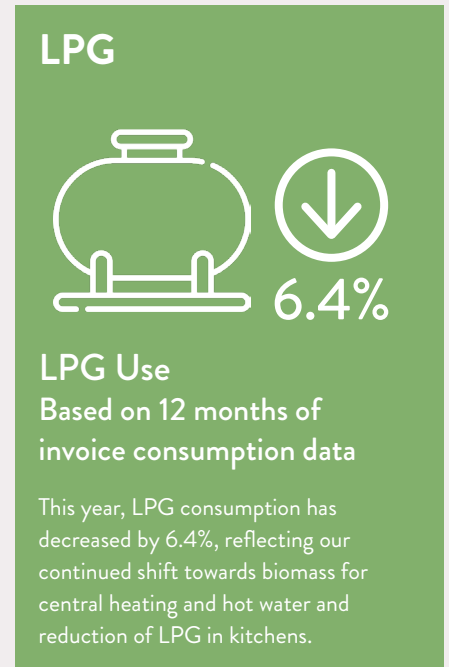
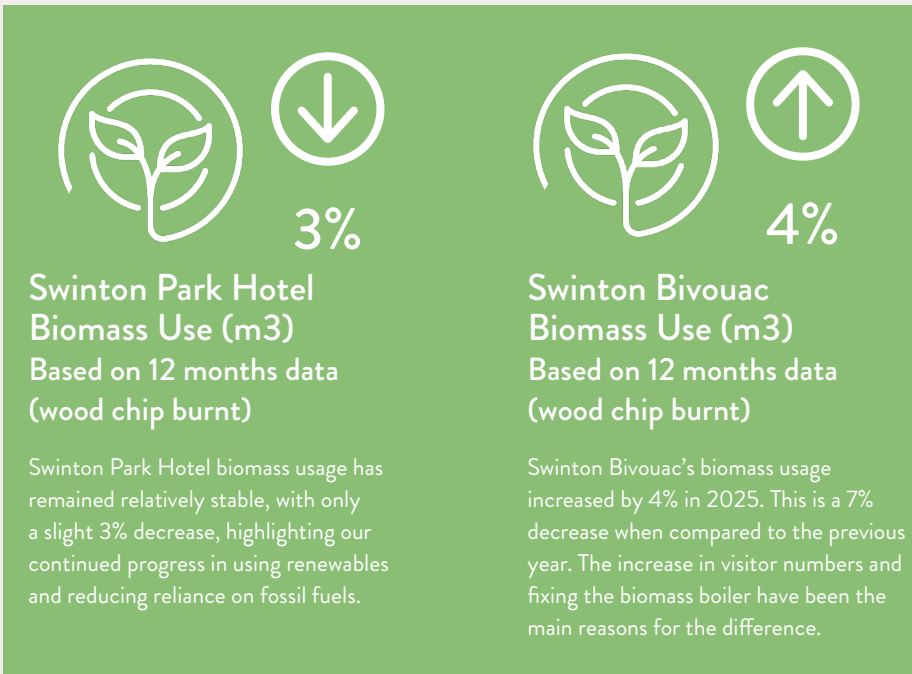
WOOD GROWN
ON THE ESTATE
PROVIDES 100%
OF THE FUEL FOR
HEATING AND
HOT WATER

BIOMASS

BIOMASS

Our 2025 Resource Consumption

Whilst electricity consumption is up, a move to cleaner resources has been the underlying cause.



A photograph of a bedroom interior. In the foreground, a bedside table holds a lamp with a pleated, patterned shade and a small, vintage-style portable radio. A framed abstract painting hangs on the wall above the table. A portion of a bed with a patterned pillow is visible on the left, and a red upholstered chair is on the right.

SWINTON SOLAR
PANELS GENERATED
38522KWH IN 2025

ELECTRICITY

ELECTRICITY

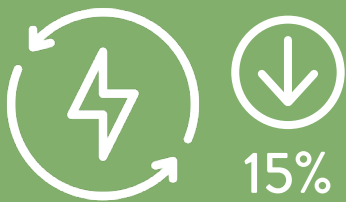


Swinton Park Hotel Electricity Use (kWh)

Our electricity consumption has seen a modest 0.5% increase this year, reflecting our on going transition towards more sustainable energy sources.

The solar panels installed on the roof of the laundry building generated 38522 kwh in 2025, and will continue to actively reduce our consumption.

To further reduce our usage we have installed sub-meters to monitor consumption for light and heat across the estate and our voltage optimisers are serviced annually to ensure they function correctly. We also have installed energy saving plugs in some of our high usage areas of the business.



Swinton Bivouac Electricity Use (kWh)

This year, Swinton Bivouac has achieved a 15% reduction in electricity consumption. Following repairs to the biomass boiler, there is no longer a need to rely on electric heating, which has significantly contributed to the decrease in overall energy usage.



Solar array update

Planning permission was granted for a 400KW ground mounted solar system. Work has already started and it should be fully operational for summer 2026. The site will power a third of all electricity consumed at Swinton Park Hotel.

We have plans to install solar panels on the roof of Swinton Country Club which will provide half the electricity for that part of the spa.

28% REDUCTION
IN GENERAL WASTE
PRODUCED



WASTE MANAGEMENT

WASTE MANAGEMENT

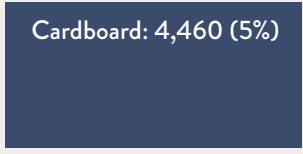
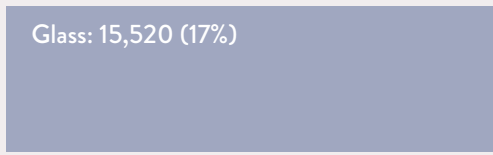
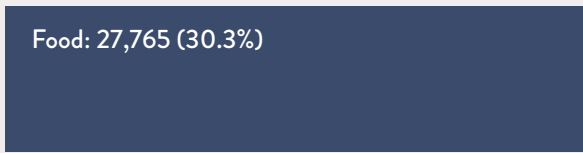
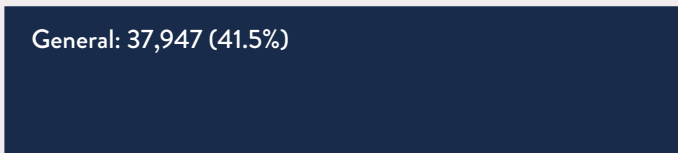
We are seeing further improvements in waste separation, tracking, and communication, allowing us to better understand and manage our impact.

Highlights:

None of our waste went to landfill over the past 12 months

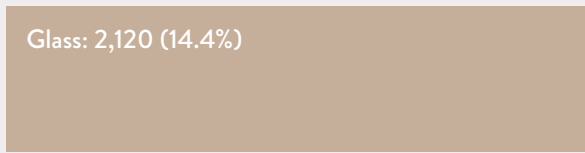
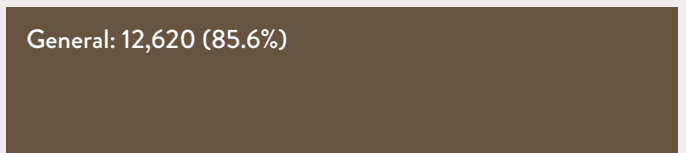
Dry Mixed Recycling (DMR) has increased by 172%. This is because we have got better at separating our waste and with staff showing a shared commitment to our environment.

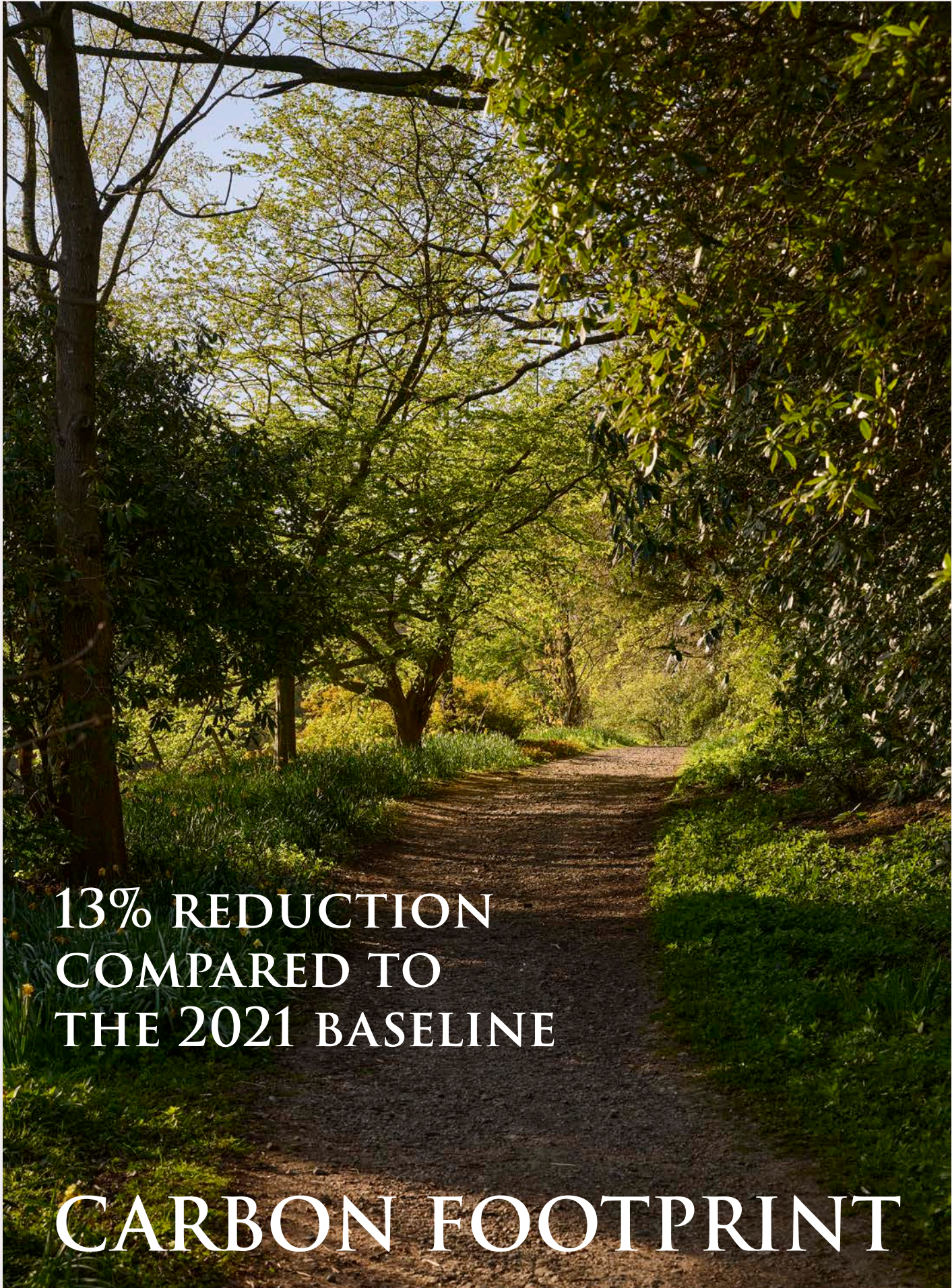
Swinton Park Hotel Waste Streams



Swinton Bivouac Waste Streams

Swinton Bivouac food, DMR and cardboard are added into the figures for Swinton Park Hotel as due to the rural location the bin lorry's cannot access the site.



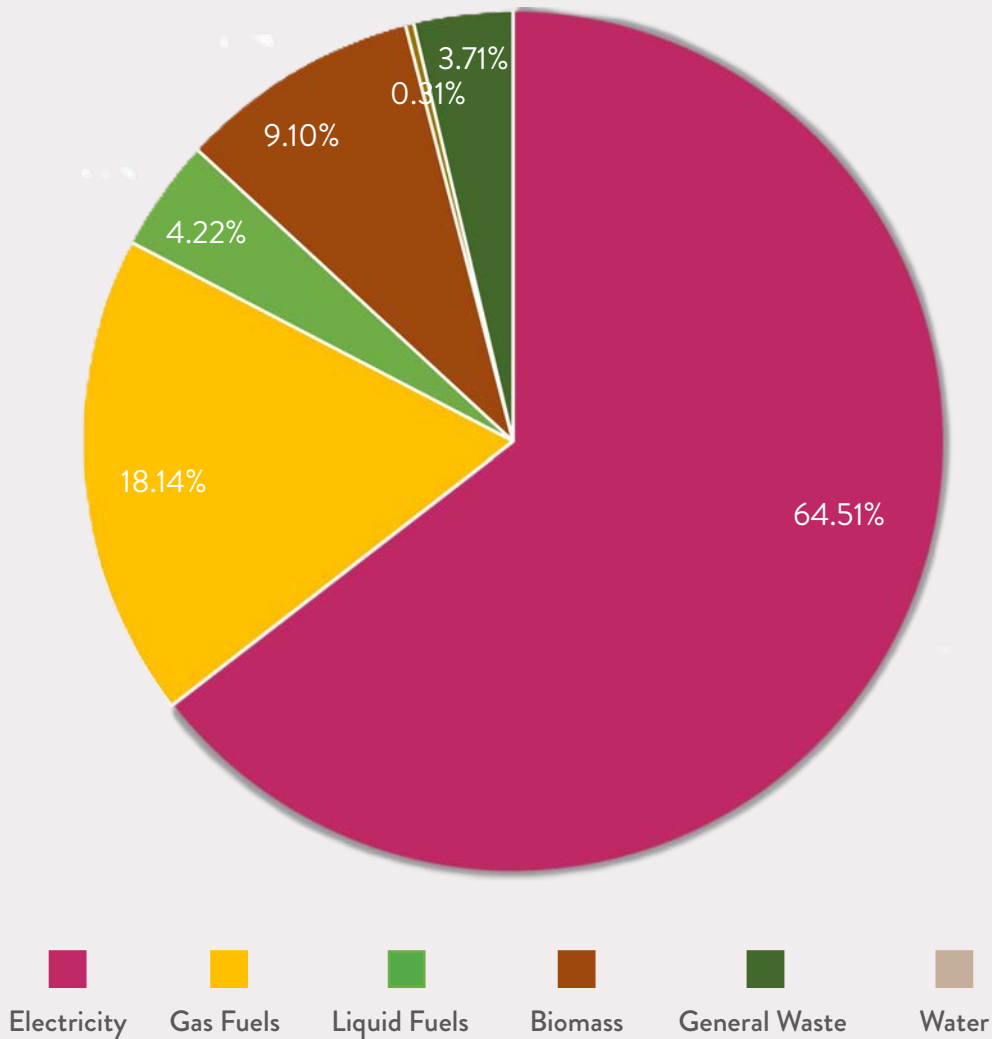


13% REDUCTION
COMPARED TO
THE 2021 BASELINE

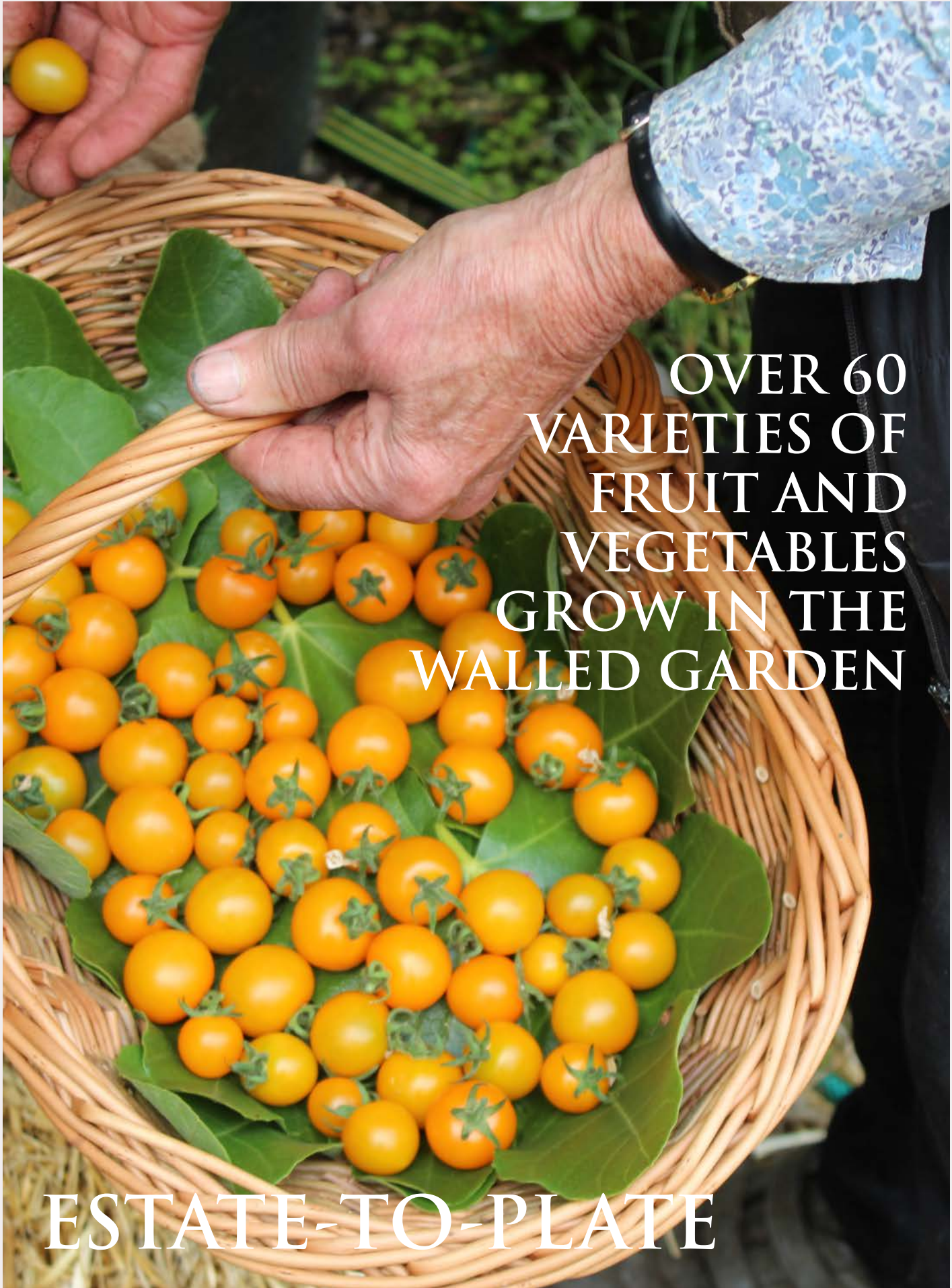
CARBON FOOTPRINT

CARBON FOOTPRINT

The 2025 Scope 1 and 2 carbon footprint for Swinton Estate, as calculated from 12 months of consumption data across biomass, gas fuels, liquid fuels, electricity, water and waste is 543.41 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide equivalent (tCO₂e).



A pie chart showcasing the percentages of resources attributed to our Carbon Footprint. (January 1st to December 31st, 2025). Biomass, gas fuels, liquid fuels, electricity, water and waste.



OVER 60
VARIETIES OF
FRUIT AND
VEGETABLES
GROW IN THE
WALLED GARDEN

ESTATE-TO-PLATE



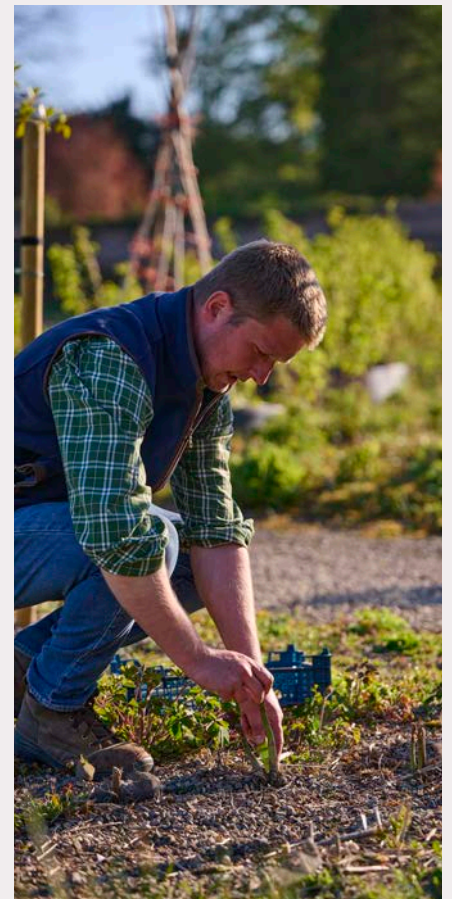
KITCHEN GARDEN

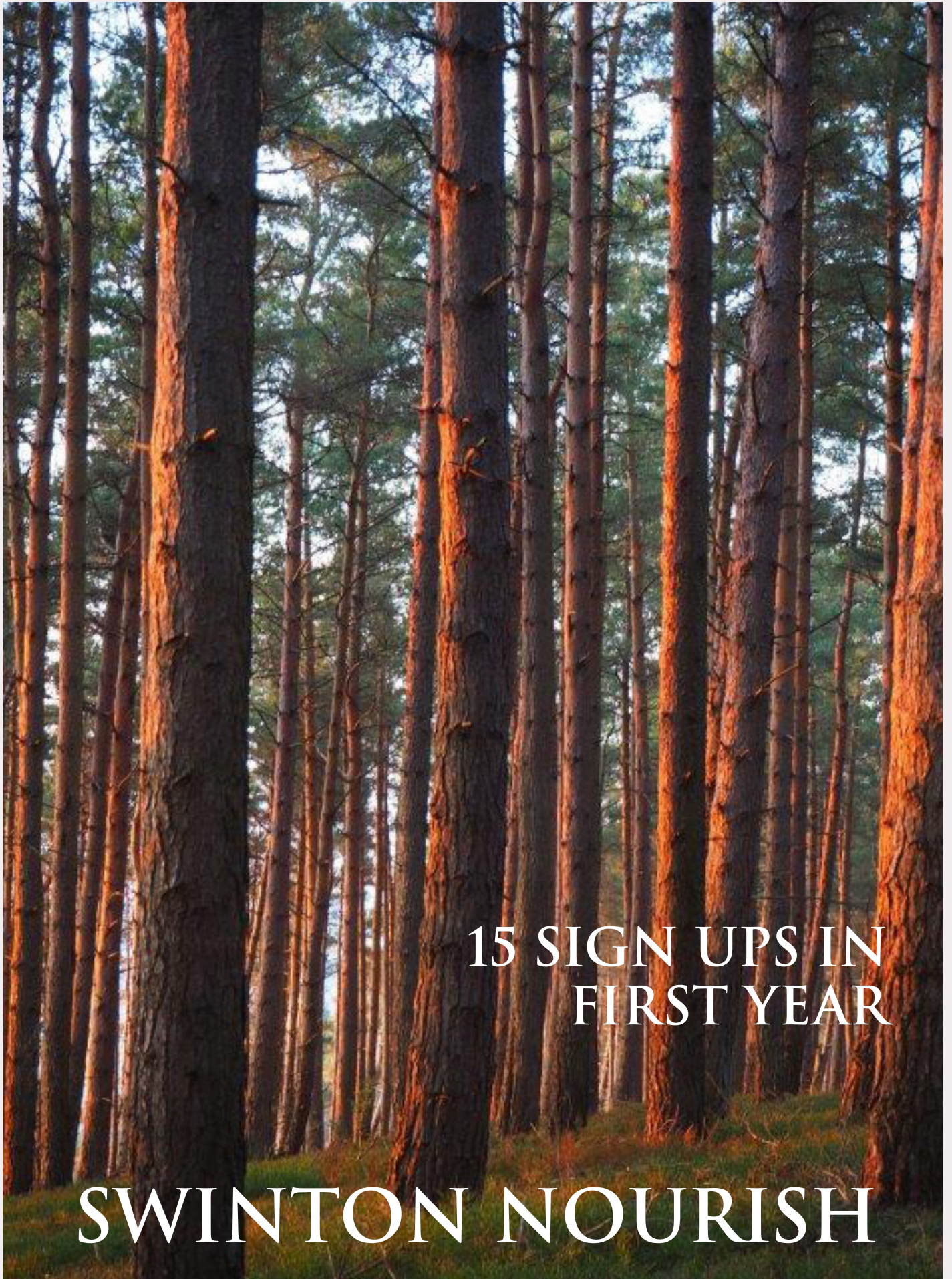
Produce used across all kitchens on the Swinton Estate is sourced wherever possible from farms within the estate, or from the four-acre Walled Garden at Swinton Park Hotel. Where estate produce is unavailable, we prioritise sourcing as locally as possible to reduce food miles and support sustainable businesses within our local area. The Walled Garden is a working kitchen garden growing substantial quantities of fruits, herbs and vegetables (over 60 varieties) as the seasons dictate. The Walled Garden is a hive of activity at certain times of the growing calendar. Using organic principles, many innovative methods are used to ensure that any insecticides are kept to an absolute minimum.



Meet our Grounds & Gardens Manager

Joe Lofthouse MHort (RHS) MCIHort began his horticultural career at a young age and has been associated with the Swinton Estate since 2008, gaining formal training at Askham Bryan College and a prestigious studentship at RHS Garden Harlow Carr. He progressed to Team Leader in Edibles and Nursery, achieved the RHS Master of Horticulture with distinction, and developed expertise in heritage fruits, research, and large-scale garden projects. With multiple national awards, media contributions, and a role on the RHS Fruit, Vegetable and Herb Expert Group, he now looks ahead to leading the Grounds and Gardens team at Swinton Estate.





15 SIGN UPS IN
FIRST YEAR

SWINTON NOURISH

SUSTAINABLE PARTNERSHIP

A partnership programme delivering positive environmental impact in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales.

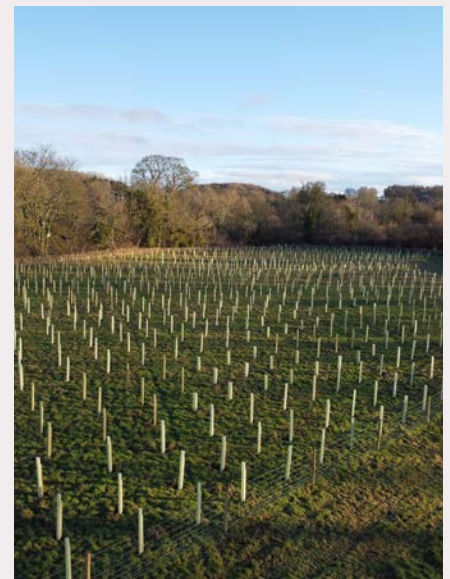


Swinton Nourish

In the first year we have had 15 companies sign up to the partnership. Our Nourish Partnership gives businesses a practical way to work towards carbon neutrality and helps developers meet local biodiversity commitments. By supporting tree planting, wildlife corridors and healthier soils, partners invest in verified Carbon Plus credits while our nature recovery work also delivers (BNG) Biodiversity Net Gain units across a range of habitats.

Wood & scrub planting at Van Diemans

Over winter 2025, Swinton Estate completed the wood and scrub planting at our BNG site at Van Diemans, marking an important step in establishing a resilient and species-rich landscape. The planting will provide valuable habitat, improve ecological connectivity, and support long-term biodiversity outcomes on the site. The next phase of works is scheduled for summer 2026, when meadow enhancement will be undertaken to further increase species diversity and deliver the full ecological potential of the BNG scheme.



Agro Forestry & Bio-Hub

Our regenerative farming approach focuses on improving soil health by working with natural systems. By combining trees, crops and livestock, we create more resilient, productive land that captures carbon and supports biodiversity. At the heart of this is our Bio-Hub — a closed-loop composting system that turns organic waste into nutrient-rich soil, helping to sustain the land for the long term. Currently we have:

- Created drains, swales and ponds to retain and hold water in the water table, resisting run off
- Developed of an active composting system using only biodegradable organic material
- Planted fruit trees, shrubs, herbs, system plants and windbreaks



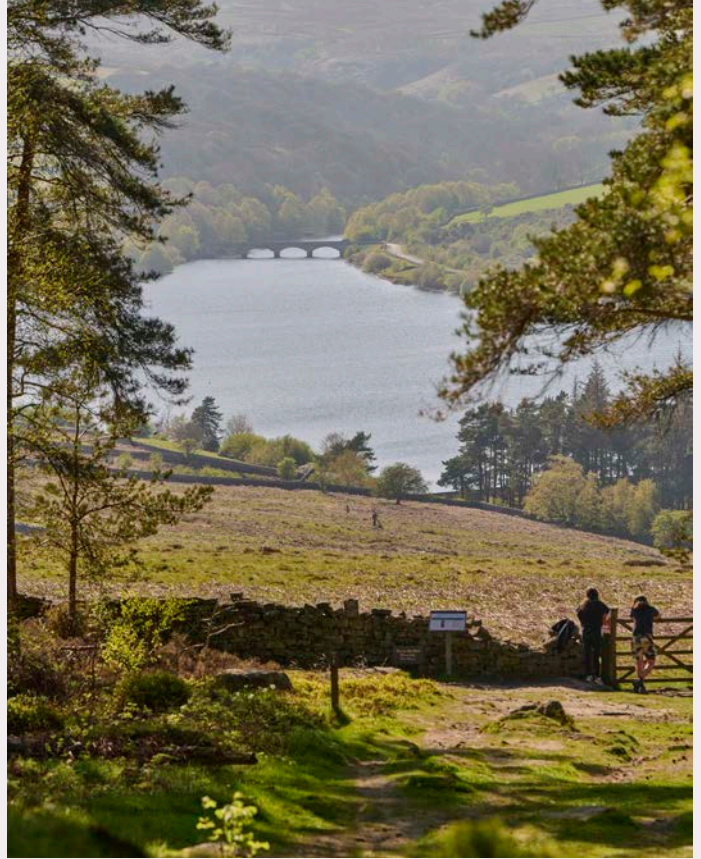
Climate Action Academy Action Day

In 2025, we hosted two Climate Action Days bringing partners together to learn and take action. The first focused on water and river health. Jennifer Lee, Daniel Turner, and David Bamford shared insights on restoring ecosystems. They highlighted invasive species, funding challenges, and threats to salmon. The second event took place at Swinton Bivouac. Partners took part in practical conservation activities including hedge-laying. Both events offered hands-on learning, expert insight, and valuable networking opportunities.

Balsam Bashing

As part of our Nourish programme, and in partnership with Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust we have undertaken a programme of intervention to face our challenges to manage or control the spread and arrival of invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam which grows prolifically along water courses and takes over other native plants. This has an impact on biodiversity, but also (when it dies back in the winter) leaves river banks exposed to erosion.





OBJECTIVES FOR 2026

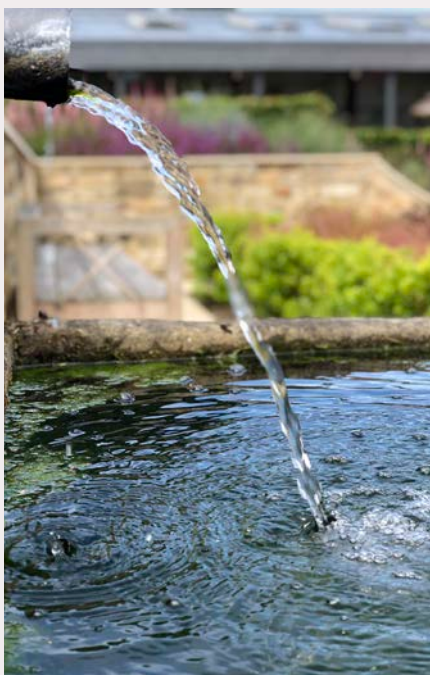


Carbon Footprint

Reduce carbon emissions by embedding sustainability through education, data-driven decision-making, and stakeholder engagement. Expand carbon literacy training and sustainability education through partnerships and internal programmes, increase carbon footprint monitoring across the estate, and drive behavioural change through transparent reporting, workshops, campaigns, and community engagement initiatives.

Partnerships & Procurement

Strengthen sustainable procurement and strategic partnerships to reduce environmental impact, support local supply chains, and build resilience. Increase engagement with sustainable procurement frameworks, expand responsible sourcing and supplier partnerships, improve supply chain transparency, continue to prioritise local and seasonal produce to reduce food miles, and collaborate with tenant farmers on low-carbon and regenerative agricultural initiatives.



Electricity & Water

Reduce environmental impact and improve resource efficiency through sustainable land and energy initiatives. Enhance biodiversity and soil health through carbon sequestration projects, install solar panel systems to improve energy efficiency and reduce emissions, continue monitoring electricity and water consumption to identify efficiencies, inform reduction targets, and support long-term sustainability planning.



CONCLUSION

Swinton Estate's 2026 Sustainability Report reflects another year of meaningful progress as we continue to embed environmental responsibility across every part of the estate.

In 2025, we welcomed over 25,000 visitors and were proud to receive recognition for our work in sustainable tourism and biodiversity, including Wildlife Farms and Estates Level 2 accreditation. Just as importantly, we have invested in our people through Carbon Literacy training and the development of a new Sustainability in Hospitality A-Level, helping to build the knowledge and skills needed for the future.

We have delivered clear improvements in our environmental performance. Our Scope 1 and 2 emissions are down 13% against our 2021 baseline, alongside significant reductions in diesel and LPG use. We have also made strong progress in waste management, achieving a 28% reduction in general waste, a substantial increase in recycling, and zero waste to landfill.

We continue to invest in renewable energy, with a new 400kW solar array set to supply up to one-third of the hotel's electricity. Across the estate, our focus on regenerative land management and partnerships such as Swinton Nourish is enhancing biodiversity, improving soil health, and strengthening long-term resilience.

While I am encouraged by the progress we have made, our focus is firmly on the future. We will continue to build on this momentum—working collaboratively, scaling our impact, and ensuring Swinton Estate plays a leading role in shaping a more sustainable future.

Kind regards,

Iain Shelton, CEO



Green is more than a word to us. It's a commitment to protect the environment so there's clean air, fresh water, and unspoiled nature for all to enjoy – today and tomorrow. Honouring that commitment means finding different ways to work, live and travel on the Swinton Estate.



SWINTON ESTATE