

HAUC(UK) Road to Net Zero Project

Status Report 11 September 2024

Project Overview

The Delivery Phase of the HAUC(UK) Road to Net Zero Project aims to demonstrate the feasibility of the street works and road works industry's transition towards Net Zero. This goal, enshrined in UK law in 2019, aligns with local government targets and organisational visions. The project seeks to deliver additional environmental, social and economic benefits without significantly increasing financial burdens on the sector.

This status report provides a comprehensive overview of the HAUC(UK) Road to Net Zero Project's progress, deliverables, risks and required actions. The project team remains committed to facilitating the industry's transition towards Net Zero through the development of robust decision-support tools and collaborative initiatives.

Progress to Date:

1. Design Phase Completion

- Published report: Road to Net Zero Design Phase Executive Summary - https://static.hauc-uk.org.uk/downloads/Road-to-Net-Zero_Design-Phase_-Exec-Summary.pdf

2. Carbon Calculator Enhancements

- Established working group and prioritised enhancements
- Secured DfT support for regular Street Manager reports to reduce manual data entry

3. Alternative Business Models

- Draft in progress

4. Decision Support Framework Development

- Scheduled Optioneering tool workshops from September
- Planned 'Decarbonising Street Works and Road Works' workshop for 7 November at University of Birmingham (open to all HAUC community)

5. Communications

- Developing Insights/Shared Learning area on website
- Content creation in progress

Key Deliverables (Tools):

1. Refined Web-based Carbon Calculator

- Enables standardised carbon measurement across sector activities
- Facilitates progress tracking towards Net Zero
- Achieved in response to and via further collaboration with stakeholder project partners

2. 'All Consequences Calculator'

- A key tool which supports comprehensive decision-making for decarbonisation strategies
- Achieved in response to stakeholder feedback and via further collaboration with stakeholder project partners

3. Alternative Business Models

- Clarifies carbon reduction and full-value (environmental, social and economic) outcomes of different design options

4. Web-based Optioneering Tool

- Informs design and construction decisions

The tools will transform the carbon calculator and the 'all consequences calculator' into design aids and advise on different design and construction options based on the scenario in question This can then be used for benefits realisation, which will help the tool to evolve over time.

The current phase will also deliver:

1. Industry Workshop

- Focuses on implementing improved practices embracing novel materials, equipment, technologies and site operations i.e. 'how' rather than 'what' and 'why'

2. Theory of Change for Street Works and Road Works

- Synthesises Road to Net Zero work to aid policymaking, governance and stakeholder collaboration

3. Documented Case Studies

- Highlights widely adoptable innovations and decarbonisation approaches

Risks and Issues:

1. Industry Usage of Carbon Calculator

- Addressing data sharing concerns
- The HAUC community should be advised that the RTNZ project is commitment to data anonymity and confidentiality. The RTNZ project will not disclose and cannot be compelled to share the data of any individual contributing organisation and commits to using the data contributed only in anonymised form to track overall industry progress.

2. Regulatory Body Engagement

- Considering the role of industry regulators in improving Net Zero outcomes
- Evaluating the need for regulator engagement to ensure project success

Action Items for HAUC:

1. Promote the project in Regional HAUC Forums
2. Share [Design Phase report](#)
3. Promote the project website <https://www.roadtonetzero.org.uk/>
4. Encourage wider participation in the RTNZ project and invitation to sign the charter
5. Promote November workshop (see website home page for MPU banner advert) and registration: [Decarbonising Street Works and Road Works](#)
6. Solicit input for case studies on widely adoptable Net Zero initiatives to help populate the new 'Insights' channel on the RTNZ website
7. Encourage sharing of 'good news stories' on Net Zero initiative from the wider community. Submitted via communications@roadtonetzero.org.uk
8. Support the proposed contra deal with Utility Week Live (20 & 21 May 2025 at the NEC, Birmingham) with specific reference to promoting the Road to Net Zero project.