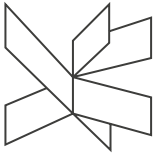


Bring ideas to life  
VIA University College



# Climate Action Plan

2024-2025

# Foreword

Welcome to VIA's Climate Action Plan 2024–2025. The plan describes concrete actions and milestones for 2025, each of which contributes to our ambitious goal of significantly reducing VIA's climate footprint by 2030.

How we reach that goal will certainly be full of dilemmas, and we do not yet know all the measures needed to will reach it. But the Climate Action Plan 2024–2025 provides a solid foundation that we can build on, and, therefore, it is an important step on our way to 2030.

VIA's climate footprint is calculated annually in our ESG report, and from now to 2030, we will publish climate action plans every two years. These plans are essential for us being able to achieve our ambition of reducing our CO2 emissions by 75 per cent in Scopes 1 and 2 and by 25 per cent in Scope 3 by 2030.

Our ambition is not only to reduce our negative "footprint", but also to influence our students to move society in a more sustainable direction. That is our positive "handprint", for it is here we can make the greatest societal difference. Our students need to see us act in a proper and credible way. Our behaviour must demonstrate earnestly our words on green transition and sustainable development. Therefore, we must work purposefully to reduce our own CO2 emissions. For VIA, this is two sides of the same coin. By taking responsibility for our own climate footprint, we show our students we are leading the way and taking the agenda seriously.

With the climate action plan, we will have achieved 29 milestones by the end of 2025, each of which is a

small step on the way towards our 2030 reduction target.

Before formulating the concrete actions, we held discussions and workshops, gathered knowledge and involved stakeholders. This work took place in 2024 with activities focused within seven action groups, categorised according to the themes: green and efficient energy, smart use and circular economy and green mobility.

We would like to express a huge thank you to every one of you who is engaged with the work. Your work has created a plan that is both ambitious and attainable, and which offers a solid foundation for the important work that lies ahead of us.

Happy reading!

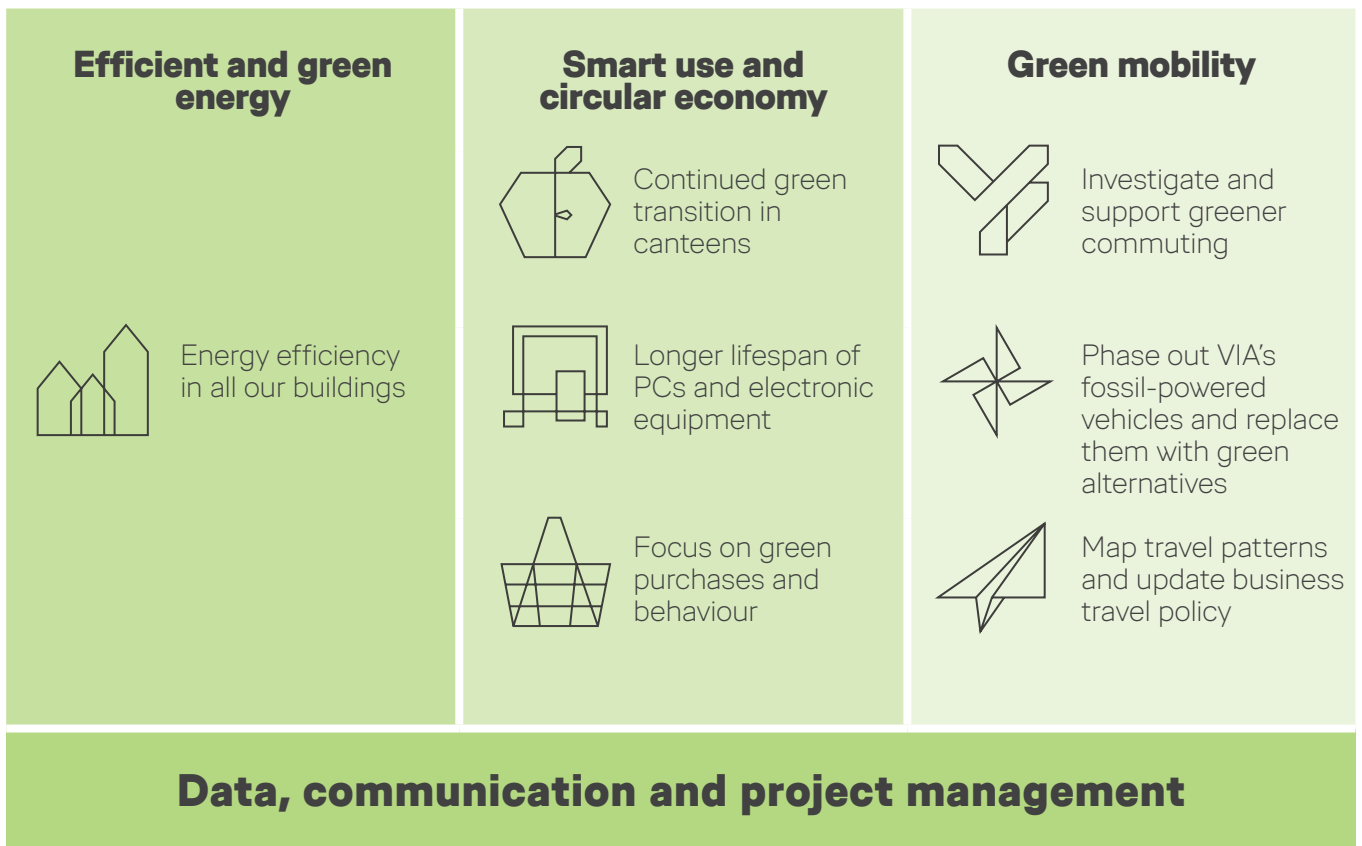
On behalf of the Executive Board



Kirsten Suhr Bundgaard  
University College Director

## CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

# Climate Action Plan 2024-2025 overview



## A word on the guide

The climate action plan is organised under three themes: green and efficient energy, smart use and circular economy and green mobility. These three themes are further divided into seven action areas as well as a supporting area for data, communication and project management. In this guide, you can read about specific initiatives that the seven action groups are working on for 2024–2025. Each action group consists of an action leader and four to nine group members.

If you would like to know more about the work of the groups, the actions, measures, timeframes, data or processes, please contact the coordinating project manager Camilla le Dous at [groenomstilling@via.dk](mailto:groenomstilling@via.dk)

You are also welcome to submit ideas, suggestions or other recommendations for the forthcoming climate action plan of 2026–2027.

## EFFECTIVE AND GREEN ENERGY

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# Effective and green energy

### Goal for 2030

VIA University College will reduce its Scopes 1 and 2 emissions by 75 per cent by 2030 compared with 2022.

This means we will phase out natural gas for building heating (Scope 1) and we will work resolutely to lower our energy consumption in our buildings, particularly electricity and district heating (Scope 2).

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### Energy and buildings



### Activities 2024-2025

Action lead: Jan Bagger Severinsen, Director of Facility Management (FM)

- We will map the technical installations in all VIA's buildings to identify projects where we can improve energy efficiency.
  - We will use communication to support more sustainable operations and behaviour in VIA's buildings. The communication must be targeted at the users of the buildings.
  - We aim to make the new Campus in Randers as sustainable as possible in connection with its renovation, with particular emphasis on the choice of materials and energy consumption (Scopes 2 and 3).
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### Milestones for 2025

Complete mapping of technical installations at all addresses (Q4, 2024).

Hold a workshop on energy efficiency for FM's technical employees (Q2, 2025).

Plan and prepare communications for each campus and involve relevant collaboration partners (Q4, 2025).

Action group to have supplied the construction programme for the new campus in Randers with a minimum of three clear sustainability initiatives (Q4, 2025).

## SMART USE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY

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# Smart use and circular economy

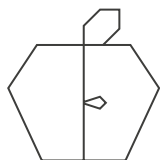
### Goal for 2030

VIA University College will reduce its Scope 3 emissions by 25 per cent by 2030 compared with 2022.

This means we focus on our canteens, the life extension of IT and electronic equipment, as well as procurement services. Everything we buy leaves a footprint, and we will work to make smarter purchases and increase the share of the circular economy.

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### Food and beverages



### Activities 2024-2025

Action lead: Henning Markussen, Director of Projects and Planning

- We will increase the amount of plant-based food in canteens and minimise the proportion of meat.
  - We will develop the canteens' range of beverages with the aim of reducing CO<sub>2</sub>, while simultaneously maintaining our organic ambition.
  - We will investigate whether energy consumption in the operation of canteens can be further optimised (Scope 2 reduction).
  - We will reduce single-use items in canteens and refreshments for meetings.
  - We want to communicate and share knowledge to spread our positive experience with the green transition in canteens.
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### Milestones for 2025

We have prepared a systematic report for each campus on the purchase of single-use tableware and service (Q2, 2025).

We have reduced the proportion of meat from 10 to 8 per cent (kg, annual average) for all canteens (Q4, 2025).

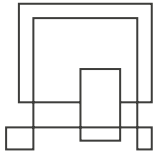
We have reduced our CO<sub>2</sub> footprint on beverages to a maximum of 2.0 CO<sub>2</sub>e per kg (annual average) combined for all canteens (Q4, 2025).



## SMART USE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY

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### IT and electronic equipment



### Activities 2024-2025

Action lead: Peter Nordestgaard, IT Support Manager

- We will work for better utilisation of computers and electronics across VIA with a focus on life extension and optimised procurement.
- We will adapt existing practices for registering computers and electronics so it also supports the circular economy.
- We will reduce purchases by utilising/developing a joint standard for e.g. docking stations and power supply. A standard setup will be developed for different types of work functions.

### Milestones for 2025

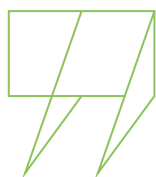
Describe the system and procedure for recording data relating to computers with a view to better utilisation and life extension of hardware (Q2, 2025).

Implement a new solution for the registration of computers etc. and from Q3 2025, employees' computers (hardware) will be systematically registered going forward.

Develop and implement standards for work functions/roles (Q3, 2025).

Prepare a basis for decisions and implement the new organisation for computer procurement (Q4, 2025).

Kirsten Suhr Bundgaard  
University College Director



Artificial intelligence is a relatively new technology, which many have predicted will have a decisive influence on our work and private lives. The technology is in the development stage, and VIA is investigating its potential within education, research and administration. What is already evident is that the technology introduces new and unprecedented high power consumption and, thus, CO2 emissions by AI suppliers. VIA must therefore be aware of this problem in connection with the technology being taken into use around the world.



## SMART USE AND CIRCULAR ECONOMY

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### Procurement and consumer behaviour



### Activities 2024-2025

Action lead: Lars Peter Schou, Director of Finance

- We will investigate the possibility of establishing a system for easier access to furniture and equipment. The aim is to increase our inventory circularity.
- We will continue to engage in dialogue with suppliers and challenge them on greener products. If new acquisitions are needed, there must be more focus on reusing them and acquiring items made from recycled materials.
- We will focus on implementing a procurement policy, including spreading knowledge of procurement functions as well as professionalising procurement with a view to promoting greener procurement behaviour.
- We will make it easier to use Danish State and Local Government Procurement agreements (SKI agreements), choose greener products and reduce the number of choices.

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### Milestones for 2025

Decide to establish a furniture swap (Q2, 2025).

Decide to organise the procurement function, purchasers and procurement processes (including digital solutions) with a view to professionalising procurement, which promotes greener procurement behaviour.

Implementation will take place in 2026 (Q4, 2025).

## GREEN MOBILITY

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# Green mobility

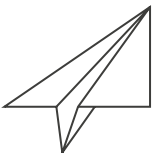
### Goal for 2030

VIA University College will reduce its emissions in Scopes 1 and 2 by 75 per cent by 2030 compared with 2022. This means that VIA's own vehicles running on fossil fuels must be phased out in favour of greener solutions.

VIA University College will reduce its Scope 3 emissions by 2 per cent by 2030 compared with 2022. For green mobility, this means we will work to support good green commuting conditions for students and staff. Regarding travelling for work, we will update VIA's travel and meeting policy, so it supports the green agenda without compromising our work.

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### Travelling for work



### Activities 2024-2025

Action lead: Lars Peter Schou, Director of Finance

- We will update our business travel policy so it is adapted to VIA's green ambitions. To support the update of the business travel policy, a mapping of stakeholders and travel patterns will be carried out in VIA.
- We will investigate the possibility of establishing an internal travel office in VIA that can simplify bookings with regard to improving knowledge of frameworks and guidelines (possibly from 2026, pending an updated travel policy).
- We will map mobility improvements between campuses, the possibility of company cars, and increase carpooling as well as bicycle parking and repair.
- We will continue to work on influencing external partners, e.g. Danish State and Local Government Procurement agreements (SKI agreements) for certified hotel accommodation concerning business trips.
- We will investigate the culture of meeting planning, including the possibility of reducing the number of physical meetings where it makes sense, and spread awareness of hybrid meetings and digital facilities. (Possibly from 2026, pending an updated travelling-for-work policy)





## GREEN MOBILITY

### Milestones for 2025

Gather data for VIA's travelling for work between campuses, by plane, train and so on, and hold a workshop to prepare an action catalogue (Q2, 2025).

Initiate formulation of updated travelling-for-work policy (Q2, 2025).

Adopt updated travelling-for-work policy (Q4, 2025). Implementation is expected in 2026.



## GREEN MOBILITY

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### Commuting



### Activities 2024-2025

Action lead: Lars Christian Westh Pedersen, Director of Rector's Office

- We would like better data for commuting, and we will therefore carry out a commuting analysis for students and staff as well as uncover current initiatives that support green habits.
  - We will collaborate with local municipalities on green mobility concerning the individual municipality's climate plan and initiatives.
  - We will participate in a project in the Central Jutland Region on mobility and commuting to and from Business Park Skejby.
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### Milestones for 2025

Gather and process data for staff commuting as well as publish a report and baseline at campus level (Q4, 2025).

Gather data for student commuting (Q4 2025; data to be processed and published (Q1, 2026)).

Uncover potential collaborations with local municipalities within mobility under the remit of municipalities' climate action plans. Enter into dialogue with all municipalities where we have campuses and have at least one collaboration (Pilot project) (Q4, 2025).

Together with the Central Jutland Region, evaluate the effect of initiatives in the "Sustainable commuting in Skejby" project (Q4, 2025).



## GREEN MOBILITY

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### Converting VIA's fossil vehicles



### Activities 2024-2025

Action lead: Søren Grosen, Head of VIA's Centre for Educational Resources (CFU)

- We will purchase and test a new electric van in CFU with a view to scaling up.
- We will establish a charging facility for electric vans at the CFU warehouse.
- In FM, we have a total of 18 fossil-powered vehicles, including five ride-on lawnmowers. In 2024/2025, a min. of two fossil fuel vehicles will be exchanged for electric vehicles.
- As part of the test of the new electric van, an analysis of driving patterns, range and working conditions for staff will be carried out.

### Milestones for 2025

Evaluate the use and operation of two new electric vans with a view to replacing all diesel-powered vans in favour of electric vans by 2030 at the latest (Q4, 2025).

Plan for phasing out diesel-powered vans towards 2030. Plan to include the number of replacements per year, financial forecast and other operating conditions learned during evaluation (Q4, 2025).

Establish a minimum of two charging options at the CFU warehouse at Fanøvej 9b, Viborg (Q4, 2025).

Replace at least two fossil-fuel-powered vehicles in our FM department with electric-powered vehicles. By the end of 2025, have a plan to replace the remaining vehicles in FM towards 2030 (Q4, 2025).

## SUPPORTING ACTIONS

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# Data, communication and project management

### Goal for 2030

VIA University College will reduce its Scopes 1 and 2 emissions by 75 per cent by 2030 compared with 2022. VIA University will reduce its Scope 3 emissions by 25 per cent by 2030 compared with 2022.

We work strategically with the goals and follow up on the efforts annually through our ESG reporting. Action plans are to be made every two years. We will communicate our efforts as an inspiration to others, and we work continuously to improve our data quality.

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### Data, communication and project management

#### Activities 2024-2025

Camilla le Dous, Project manager for VIA's green transition

- We will improve the data quality in our annual climate assessment. We will do this by working continuously with CarbonKey and working on the invoice quality from our suppliers.
- Where possible, we will request emission factors for specific procurements to support the work of the action groups.
- We will improve data quality for consumption data and distribution internally in VIA.
- We will communicate the climate action plan internally and externally. Internally, a monthly newsletter will be published with selected focus areas as well as concrete advice for climate action.
- We will seek collaborations with municipalities and other educational organisations.
- We will support the work of the action groups with financial frameworks, project management, data and behavioural communication during the individual activities.
- It is the project manager's role to be a link to the work with the education-oriented track for sustainable development.



## SUPPORTING ACTIONS

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Have a full data set for waste volumes in fractions distributed at campus level (Q4, 2024).

Have improved invoice quality with at least three major suppliers (Q3, 2025).

Have published nine newsletters for our internal communication (Q4, 2025).

Process for action plan 26/27 to be approved by the Executive Board (Q4, 2025).

Establish three specific collaborations with municipalities on green transition (Q4, 2025).

# About VIA University College

VIA University College is one of Denmark's largest educational and continuing education institutions.

VIA wishes to be a knowledge institution that drives sustainable development. This is conveyed by the positive impact our students leave on society, as well as by VIA taking the lead in reducing the negative climate impact from its own organisational operations.

**Contact:**

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