

Great wines, greater impact

Impact report 2026

Contents

3 Introduction

- 3 A word from Kim, our MD
- 5 Mission, culture and vision
- 6 Who we are
- 7 Our impact highlights
- 9 Target progress

10 Strategy creation

- 11 Materiality
- 12 Our value chain
- 13 What's next
- 14 Our new strategy



15 Collective Action

- 16 Recertification and the year ahead
- 17 B Corp – 10 years in the making



20 People

- 21 Successes
- 23 Our charity challenge
- 24 Bumps in the road and the year ahead



25 Packaging

- 26 Successes
- 27 Bumps in the road and the year ahead



28 Value Chain

- 29 Successes
- 31 Bumps in the road and the year ahead



32 Sourcing

- 33 Successes
- 34 Bumps in the road and the year ahead

35 Thank you



A word from Kim, our MD

The UK wine market is navigating a period of complex change. From shifting consumer habits to the mounting complexities of Duty and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), our industry is under significant pressure. In this challenging landscape, we have found that our commitment to doing business differently, by putting people and planet alongside profit, is far more than a moral choice. It is exactly what allows us to stand out, stay resilient, and buck the trend.



Deepening our roots

We are now three years into our journey as a certified B Corp, and it is fantastic to see how these values have woven themselves into the business. While our early focus was on introducing these concepts to the team, those principles now guide everyday actions and help shape our long-term strategy. It's always a particularly proud moment for me when new team members tell us they chose North South Wines because of this clear vision. Knowing that our reputation for purpose is what attracts fantastic new talent reinforces that we are moving in the right direction.

Driving industry change

Over the past year, we have continued to amplify our voice and champion what we believe is a better way of doing business. Through my appointment to the WSTA board, I have been honoured to represent our values at the highest level while lobbying on the critical regulatory issues putting pressure on our sector. Our team has also been active on the ground, sharing our expertise on panels such as at Sustainability in Wine to help drive industry-wide discussion and progress. At the same time, we have continued to support the growth of Raising the Glass, an initiative close to my heart that fosters inclusivity for women and allies in the drinks industry.

Impact through action

Undertaking advocacy is an important piece of the puzzle, but it needs to be backed by tangible actions and a commitment to ensuring our own house is in order. This year, we moved from planning to achieving operational milestones, most notably gaining our ISO 14001 certification. We also took a significant step forward by signing the Bottle Weight Accord, a vital initiative to reduce the carbon footprint of glass packaging within our industry. On the product side, we have expanded our own-label ranges under the 1% for the Planet initiative to ensure our growth can still positively contribute to environmental causes. Locally, we have deepened our bond with our charity partner, Restore, donating over £12,250 to support their work.



The year ahead

None of this would be possible without the full commitment of the North South Wines team and our producers, who support our sustainability vision. Looking ahead to our B Corp recertification in 2027, we are proactively aligning our business with the evolved requirements. These seven new pillars represent a significant step up in accountability, and we are fully embracing the opportunity to push ourselves further.

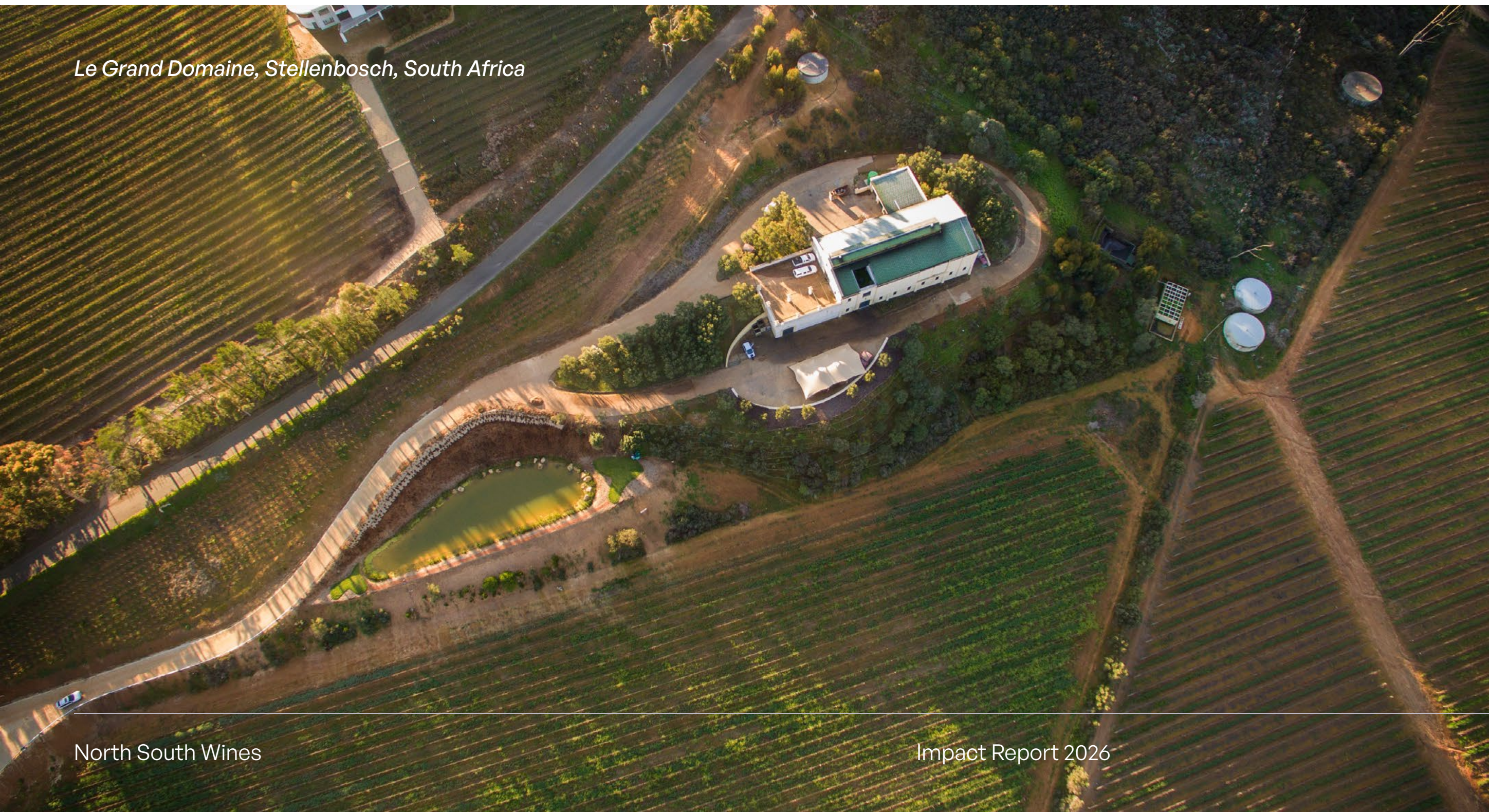
I am incredibly proud of what we are building together. We are proving that a business can be successful while remaining open, supportive, and truly people led. Thank you for being part of this journey; I truly believe that our best and most impactful years are still to come.

Kim Wilson

Managing Director

At North South Wines, we believe that how we do business matters as much as the wine we distribute.

Our mission, culture and vision provide a roadmap for the journey we are on.



Le Grand Domaine, Stellenbosch, South Africa

Our mission

To champion better business in wine distribution by providing excellent customer service, investing in workplace wellbeing, reducing our impact on the environment, and nurturing strong partner relationships.

Our culture

A collaborative, tenacious team spirit drives us forward to establish and exceed the expectations of our partners, customers and employees. We encourage personal and collective growth to equip our team with the courage to push boundaries.

Our vision

To discover, deliver, and distribute great value and quality wines that UK consumers will love in a way that upholds the commitments we've made to our partners, employees, and our planet.

Who we are

We are wine importers, first and foremost, committed to bringing exciting wines to market in a way that respects our customers and the environment. Our model is unique, involving three respected family winery partners who are truly part of our journey and fully invested in our shared future.

- Founded in 2014
- 3 winery partners →
- 45 suppliers
- 14 countries of origin
- 34 employees
- 1 new wine brand →
- 1 industry award →

ESTD 1928
De BORTOLI
FAMILY WINEMAKERS

cep
TWP
The Wine People


WEINKELLEREI
REH KENDERMANN
WINEMAKERS SINCE 1920

WHEN IN ROME





We proudly achieved ISO 14001 certification for the first time this year.

We have planted over 12,083 trees through our partnership with Treeapp over the years.



Our impact highlights



We completed an updated materiality assessment, alongside a new sustainability strategy and set of targets.

From new certifications to industry collaborations, this year has been filled with a wide variety of activities, enabling North South Wines continued evolution to better serve both people and the planet.

We donated over £12,250 to our location charity partner – Restore.





We donated **£3,574** to the Painted Wolf Foundation through sales of Painted Wolf Wines.

We fundraised over **£4,000** for our new national industry partner – The Drinks Trust.



We became **Bottle Weight Accord** signatories for both Still & Sparkling Wine.



We continue to provide **mental health and carbon literacy training** for all employees.



We've reduced our average bottle weight for still wine to **below 420g**.

Target progress

This year marks the end of our first set of sustainability targets. It has been a real learning curve, and we're really proud of the progress we've made so far!

Area	Target	Progress
People	We will conduct an annual customer satisfaction survey with the target of achieving over 9/10 satisfaction.	Achieved ✓
	Create and implement a diversity, equity, and inclusion strategy.	Achieved ✓
	We will conduct an annual staff satisfaction survey with the target of achieving over 4.5/5 satisfaction.	Partially achieved – 32 participants with an average score of 4.15 / 5 (83.15%)
	Using the paid hours scheme, our staff will donate over 0.1% of the total hours worked to charity and community projects. Additionally, over 80% of the team will use some or all of their hours.	Missed – 0.09% of total working hours were donated and 12% of the team used hours
Packaging	Reduce our still wine bottle weight average by 10% to under 450g by 2025.	Achieved ✓
	At least 80% of bottles and cases sold to include over 50% recycled content by 2025.	Missed – 50.7% bottles and 74.5% cases included over 50% recycled content
Value chain	We aim to get our Environmental Management System ISO 14001 certified by 2025.	Achieved ✓
	We plan to move to 100% renewable energy in our office by 2025.	Achieved ✓
	We aim to transition the entire sales team to our electric car scheme by 2025.	Achieved where feasible ✓
	We commit to having a Net Zero target and reduction strategy by 2025.	Partially achieved – Target set, strategy in creation
Sourcing	We aim to maintain our annual BRCGS audit with AA grade.	Achieved ✓
	We will conduct our annual supplier satisfaction survey with the target of achieving over 4.5/5.	Partially achieved – Survey results averaged 4.4/5
	We want to work with all our significant suppliers to ensure they have environmental &/or social certifications by 2025.	Partially achieved – 1 supplier without certification

Strategy creation

With our first sustainability framework and targets finished, the next few pages look at what's to come. You will see how we reviewed our impact through double materiality, and the direction we are heading in from now until 2030.

De Bortolio Wines, Australia



Materiality

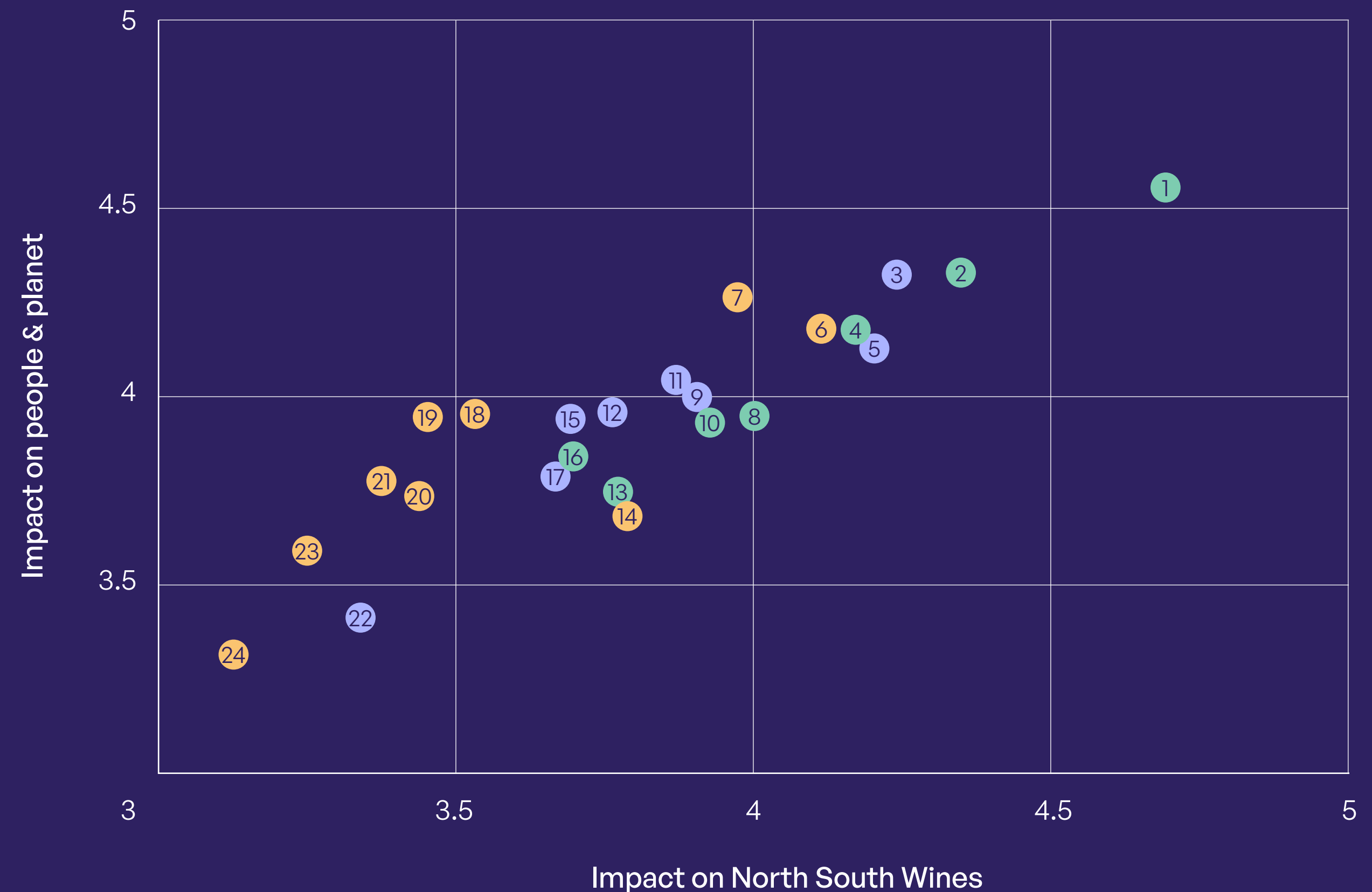
At North South Wines, double materiality is just a fancy way of looking at two things: how we affect the world around us, and how the world, from the climate to the economy, affects our business in return.

We carried out our first double materiality assessment in 2023 to make sure we were focusing our energy on the right places. Since then, our business has continued to grow and the industry has evolved, so we have revisited that work to see what's changed.

During this process, we looked at every step of our journey, from the vineyards to the final delivery and engaged with our partners to understand their perspectives. To make sure our data matched reality, we reached out to our five key groups: our team, our customers, our producers, our distributors and wider suppliers, and industry experts.

Through honest conversations and surveys, they helped us refine our priorities based on their experiences. This collaborative approach keeps our strategy grounded and ensures we are always listening to the people that influence our business. It is less about ticking boxes and more about making sure we are doing the work that actually makes a difference for everyone involved.

From the long-list of topics (24 in total), 7 came out as of high importance and therefore material to North South Wines. A further 3 topics were of medium importance which will continue to play a key role in how we do business.



Environment

- 1. Packaging
- 2. Climate change & GHG
- 4. Transport & logistics
- 8. Climate adaptation
- 10. Land use & soil health
- 13. Biodiversity
- 16. Water management

People

- 6. Human rights (supply chain)
- 7. Fair working conditions
- 14. Consumer health
- 18. Human rights (own workforce)
- 19. Justice, equality, diversity & inclusion
- 20. Community relations
- 21. Wellbeing & skills (own workforce)
- 23. Health & safety (own workforce)
- 24. Wellbeing & skills (value chain)

Governance

- 3. Product quality & safety
- 5. Supply-chain traceability
- 9. Responsible marketing
- 11. Sustainability certifications
- 12. Responsible procurement
- 15. Responsible governance, disclosure & ethics
- 17. Stakeholder engagement
- 22. Data privacy

Our value chain

This graphic provides an insight into how our business operates, with three main supply chain routes for bringing wine into the UK market.



What's next

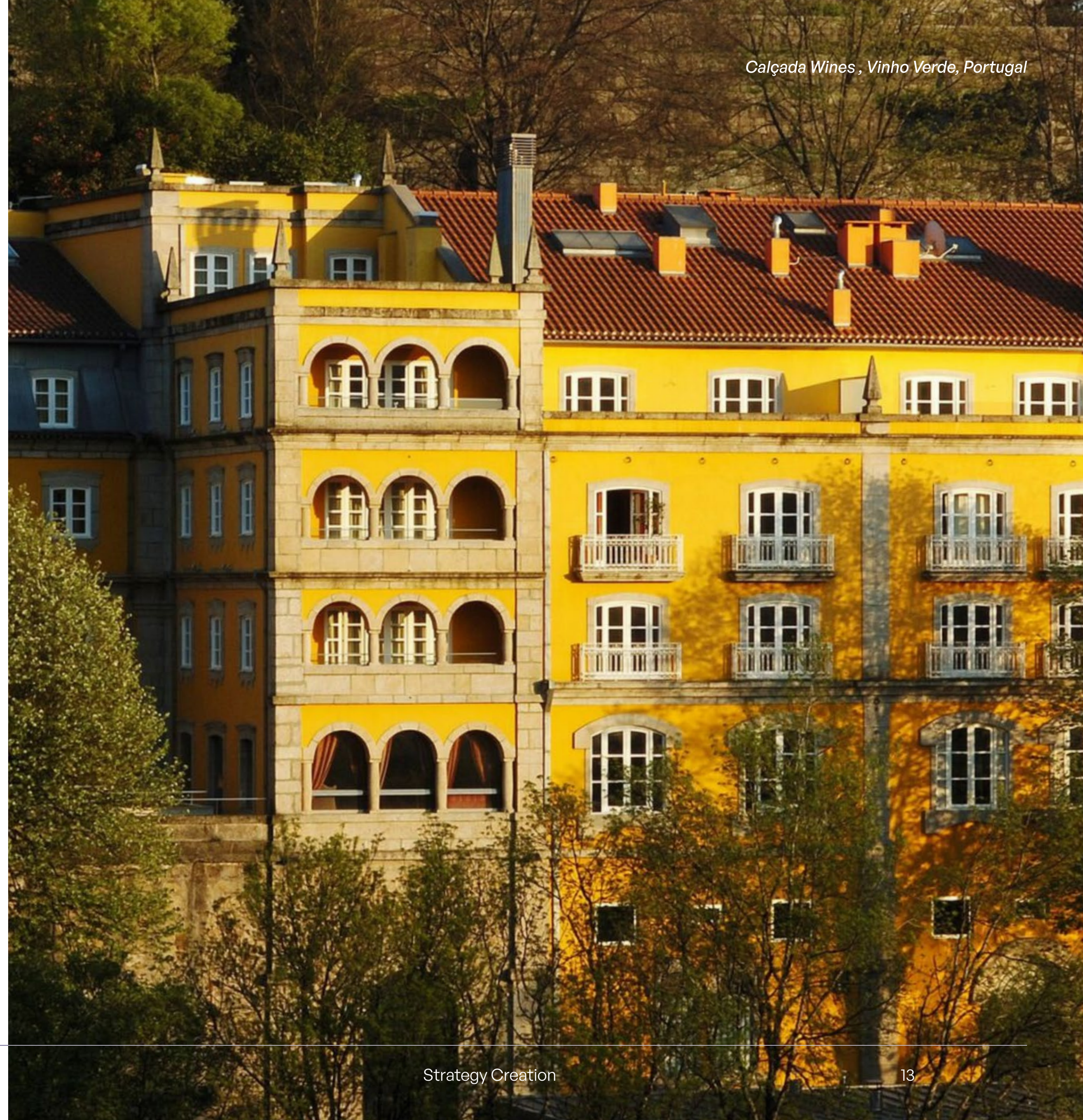
2025/26 saw many of the initial sustainability targets we set come to an end. This was a significant moment for us, and provided a natural point to step back, evaluate our progress, and refresh our strategy.

Rather than simply renewing the same list, we took the opportunity to ensure our entire approach aligns with the world we operate in today, and the direction that we see our industry going.

To understand our direction, this report marks the transition from our original pillars to a new framework which will support our progress towards recertifying for B Corp and the key topics identified from our materiality.

We believe a strategy should be a practical roadmap that guides our day-to-day decisions rather than a set of high-level ideals. We aren't interested in simply stating lofty promises that lack a clear path and so although we are setting ambitious goals, we're also setting near term KPI's which will help keep us on track in the interim target years.

Calçada Wines, Vinho Verde, Portugal



Introducing our new sustainability strategy

Collective Action



Ensure wine is a force for good.

Goal

Recertify and retain B Corp certification.
In 2027 and 2030



People



Be a business that genuinely helps our team, industry and local area thrive.

Goal

Donate 1% of employee time to training, team building and volunteering, and 1% of profit to charity and industry initiatives yearly.
By 2030

Packaging



Tackle product waste and excess packaging.

Goal

Reduce still and sparkling bottle weights in line with the Bottle Weight Accord.
By 2030



Value Chain



Reduce and remove emissions throughout our value chain.

Goal

Net Zero (Scope 1 & 2) and Net Zero (Scope 3).
By 2030 and by 2050

Sourcing



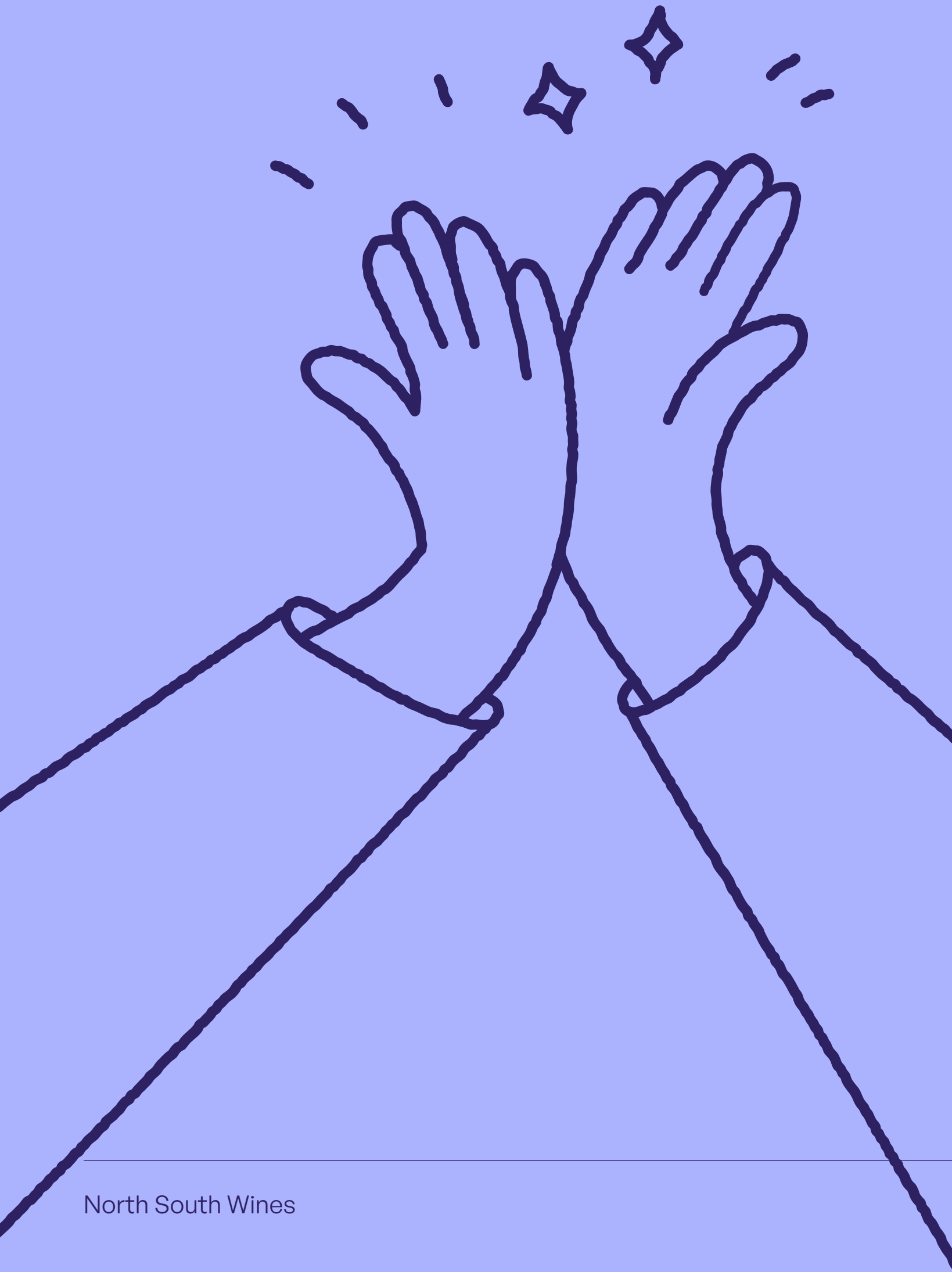
Only partner with growers and producers who share our values.

Goal

All suppliers have a sustainability related certification and share environmental and social data.
By 2030

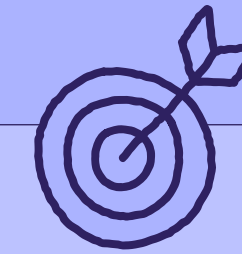
01

Collective Action



For wine to be a force for good

New target



Recertify and retain B Corp™ certification.

In 2027 & 2030

Recertification

When we first certified as a B Corp in 2023 with a score of 88.5, our initial goal was to reach the 100-point milestone during our next cycle. However, the world is changing, and B Corp is changing with it.

88.5
(2023 score)

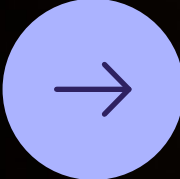
Governance	Workers	Community	Environment	Customers
18/20	29.8/40	18.4/40	17.7/45	4.3/5

The new B Lab standards, released in 2025, have moved away from overall point scoring to focus on mandatory performance across seven specific Impact Topics. This update raises the bar for what it means to be a responsible business. It ensures that certification is no longer just about a total number, but about meeting rigorous requirements in every area of our operations.

Because of these changes, we have adjusted our timeline. Rather than recertifying under the old system, we have chosen to recertify in 2027 under the new, more demanding standards.

This allows us the time to truly understand what the new requirements mean for our business and ensures we are able to focus our efforts where needed.

While we prepare for these updated standards, our new strategy will help us better align with the seven Impact Topics, moving beyond what we have reported on previously. Next year, we will share a detailed breakdown of our progress within this framework. For now, we are focused on ensuring we have the foundations in place that will form the building blocks for our 2027 recertification.

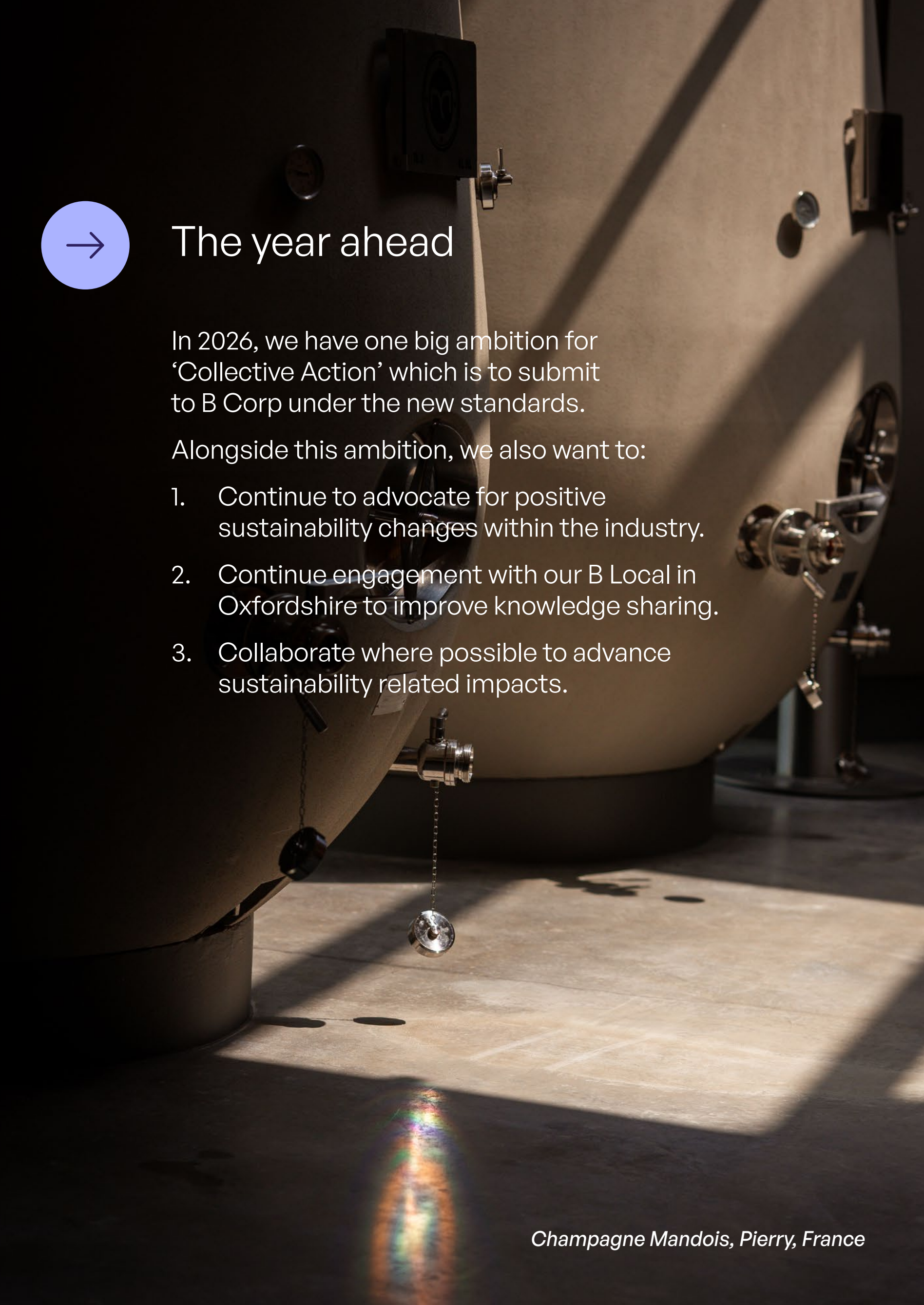


The year ahead

In 2026, we have one big ambition for 'Collective Action' which is to submit to B Corp under the new standards.

Alongside this ambition, we also want to:

1. Continue to advocate for positive sustainability changes within the industry.
2. Continue engagement with our B Local in Oxfordshire to improve knowledge sharing.
3. Collaborate where possible to advance sustainability related impacts.



Champagne Mandois, Pierry, France

Certified



B Corp — 10 years in the making

With the evolution of the B Corp movement, instead of going into detail about our old score (again), which you can find in [our previous report](#), we wanted to share something different. As part of B Corp Month in March, we sat down with two of our B Local co-chairs to explore the trajectory of our community and the importance of B Corps in the business landscape.

*Image left: **Phil Walsh**, Walsh's Learning to Achieve, **Kim Wilson**, North South Wines and **Sophie Brookes**, Philosophy Consulting*

Kim: I got introduced to both of you through the B Local. Could you share a little about how B Local works – particularly in Oxfordshire?

Phil: Yeah, so B Lab UK is the B Lab movement in the UK but they can't cover the whole of the country. So, they've divided it up into local regions and they have voluntary co-chairs who put their name forward, as Sophie and I have done, to help run networks locally. I think we're really blessed in Oxfordshire because we have a huge number of really proactive businesses that want to be involved, and want to support each other and behave as a community.

Sophie: What's been interesting is seeing it grow over the last few years. 5 years ago, we had just over 15 local B Corps as part our Oxfordshire B Local. Now, we're way over 80 across Oxfordshire, Berkshire and Buckinghamshire. I don't see any reason why we wouldn't have up to 200 members in the next three years.

Kim: From my side, I've found that B Local Oxfordshire is one of the most welcoming groups you can come to. It's a friendly face, a hug in a mug, and I always leave brimming with ideas. We've all got a shared passion about what we want to do with our businesses and how we become better at what we're doing.

It's not just about becoming better to make more money. Making more money is a byproduct of being better.

Kim: What role do you guys think that B Corp should play in the business landscape?

Sophie: I see that B Corps have a role in modelling what it means to be stakeholder-led instead of just shareholder and profit-led. I think there's an enormous opportunity for B Corp certified companies to experiment with what it means to put different stakeholders - whether that's employee owned businesses or your local community - at the forefront of thinking and decision making. We know that businesses need a wider stakeholder network to thrive and that's really important to recognise and nurture.

Kim: Yeah, I agree. We've just completed our materiality assessment which engaged all of our employees, our shareholders, our third-party producers, our customers. It was such a valuable activity to enable us to actually know what's important to them and how we can work together.

Phil: I kind of see B Corp's role as a natural progression. I remember studying the ozone layer at school and it was big news.



Oxfordshire B Lab 10 year anniversary video

“I’ve found that B Local Oxfordshire is one of the most welcoming groups you can come to. It’s like a friendly face”

Kim Wilson, North South Wines



And the climate emergency's continued. It's only natural that the generation of business owners who have grown up with this idea, that there are external impacts and effects from what we do, want to act. So, whether that's our impacts on people, society, nature, the environment, it's all wrapped up in the B Corp standards. It makes sense to me that we move into a world where more businesses, as Sophie says, are role modelling and showing others that it's possible.

Kim: How about B Corp's role for business in the future?

Sophie: I think we're looking at raising the bar all the time as B Corp. It's baked into the new standards, and it shows in how B Corps report every year. The competitive nature of a business is that you want to have done more and be able to put better metrics in place for the impact that you've made. That constant improvement cycle now being inherent in the new framework, is therefore a great thing.

Phil: Yeah, the new standards really do lead the way in terms of where we're going with the improvement plans baked in. It's going to force everyone to up their game every three to five years. Because businesses will not only have to achieve the objectives, but

publicly state them in advance. It's a great thing for businesses to not only to be able to say we are responsible, but we're continuing to grow as a responsible business as well.

“We're looking at raising the bar all the time as a B Corp.”

Sophie Brookes, Philosophy Consulting

Kim: I think so too. For me, when North South Wines certified in 2023, we knew our weakest areas were around environmental and community topics but we put a plan in place to make the changes needed. I remember our first materiality assessment where somebody said “get your own ship in order first before you start looking outwards” and it really changed my perspective on where we needed to start. That's what led us to become ISO 14001 certified as well. You don't have to do everything at once, but having a strong base, with a continuous improvement plan helps make you a better, stronger and happier business.

02

People



Be a business that genuinely helps our team, industry and local area thrive

Targets ending 2025	
We will conduct an annual customer satisfaction survey that aims to achieve over 9/10 satisfaction.	Achieved ✓
Create and implement a diversity, equity, and inclusion strategy.	Achieved ✓
We will conduct an annual staff satisfaction survey that aims to achieve over 4.5/5 satisfaction.	Partially achieved
Using the paid hours scheme, our staff will donate over 0.1% of the total hours worked to charity and community projects. Additionally, over 80% of the team will use some or all of their hours.	Missed

New targets 	
Donate 1% of employee time to training, team building and volunteering a year	By 2030
Donate 1% of profit to charity and industry initiatives a year	By 2030
Complete JEDI action plan	By 2027
Achieve 4.25/5 on staff survey	Ongoing (Yearly)



Successes

Our new JEDI strategy

At the end of 2025, we relaunched the Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (JEDI) committee, bringing together team members from across North South Wines to share their thoughts and help drive further progress.

As part of this, we solidified our JEDI strategy - The Equal Pour - which will see us focus on three distinct areas: policy and governance; workplace & access; and community & beyond. Over the next year, as a committee, we will work through three main 2026 targets along with some of the suggested actions to help make North South Wine as inclusive as possible.

The Equal Pour:

<p>Policy & Governance <i>Strengthening our roots</i></p>	<p>Workplace & Access <i>Opening access</i></p>	<p>Community & Beyond <i>Cultivating change</i></p>
<p>Ambition Embedding equity into our governance.</p> <p>Target Publish our JEDI policy by the end of 2026.</p>	<p>Ambition Creating greater access by removing systemic career barriers.</p> <p>Target Launch JEDI related training for all employees.</p>	<p>Ambition Using our voice to champion justice & equity.</p> <p>Target Support at least two initiatives to further Equality & Diversity within the wine industry.</p>



Mental health training for all

We have continued to work with Restore, our charity partner, to deliver mental health training for all employees. In February 2026, we ran a session for eight of the team who had not yet been through the Introduction to Mental Health course. This session enabled the team to consider and discuss all aspects of mental health and provided some techniques to engage with colleagues who may be struggling.

Employee survey

We ran our annual employee survey over the summer to understand our people's perspectives.

Here are our key findings...

Total satisfaction score:

4.16/5 (83.15%)

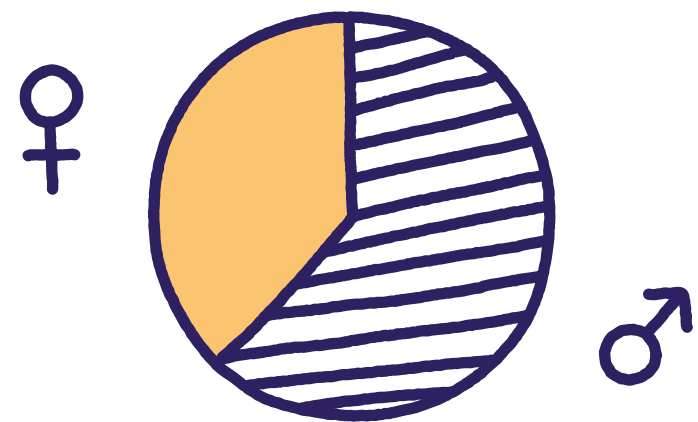
Our team:

34 people

→ 7 Nationalities

English, French, Greek, Hungarian, Nepalese, Scottish, and Welsh

→ 13 women, 21 men



96.8% feel relationships at work are open, friendly and respectful



93.5% feel motivated to work for the organisation



90% would recommend NSW as an employer

96.7%

do their best at work everyday

93.5%

are confident NSW has robust quality and safety management systems in place

87.5%

feel NSW is committed to continuous improvement

87.5%

agree that the work culture/ environment is enjoyable

87%

are satisfied with the health benefits

84.3%

feel valued and appreciated

Our charity challenge

The NSW5000

In March, we set out to complete an ambitious charity challenge and fundraise for Restore and The Drinks Trust. We had the target to cover 5,090 km as a team using any human-powered means. The virtual distance represented three return trips from our Bicester office to the European headquarters of our shareholders: Reh Kendermann in Germany, De Bortoli's base in Belgium and The Wine People in Italy.

It's safe to say that the team truly stepped up with everyone getting involved. From Operations Manager AI being on his treadmill at 5.45am most mornings to log at least 7km, Alicia completing a marathon and then still covering more distance the same week, to Greig for getting the most charity shout outs and family member sponsors!

The last week of the challenge saw 21 of the team hike from our headquarters in Bicester to our charity partner, Restore, in Oxford - a 28km trek through the countryside and wetlands. We were welcomed at the end by the Restore & Drinks Trust Team and celebrated the end of the walk with plenty of cake.

As a result of everyone's efforts, we managed to exceed our goal, travelling a huge 5908 km and raising £8,386.98 for our two charities.

The whole month was a fantastic opportunity to get outside with colleagues, hold meetings on the move, explore the local area as well as being a great reminder of the benefits nature provides for our mental wellbeing.

A huge thank you to everyone who donated to the incredible causes, we really couldn't have done it without you!



Restore is our long-term charity partner. They work with adults recovering from mental ill health, offering recovery groups, skills training and employment coaching to help people rebuild their lives.



The Drinks Trust is the industry charity that supports people across drinks and hospitality with financial, emotional and professional help.





Bumps in the road

2025 saw quite a lot of change at North South Wines. We experienced several personnel changes as team members moved on to new chapters, as is often the case with businesses who are growing and evolving. These departures naturally impacted our capacity, and as a result, a number of the initiatives we had hoped to launch were not completed.

While this was not the ideal scenario we envisioned at the start of the year, it has made us more determined to ensure progress is made throughout 2026.



The year ahead

In 2026, we have four main focuses for 'People':

1. Donate 1% of profit to charity and industry initiatives a year

Giving back is a core part of our North South Wines spirit. We are already part of 1% for the planet on the sale of our own brand wines, and so this commitment sees us align all of our organisation with this mentality.

2. Donate 1% of employee time to training, team building and volunteering a year

This includes increasing the number of mental health first aiders in the organisation and exploring what JEDI related training we could provide for the team. As volunteering was a little lower than hoped due to no full company days this year, 2026/27 will see numerous ways for the team to get involved.

3. Complete JEDI action plan

The JEDI action plan will be a key focus. From creating communications tools and updating our internal approaches to exploring how we can help our teams more, there's lots we can get stuck into.

4. Implement actions identified in the Employee Survey

From the last employee survey, four key focuses were identified for the business to work towards. They include:

- Continuing to invest in training and career development opportunities to support employee growth and progression.
- Enhancing the working environment to promote overall employee experience.
- Maintain a strong focus on employee engagement and satisfaction, including the use of regular pulse surveys.
- Strengthen internal communication and information sharing through more consistent and effective channels across the organisation.

03

Packaging



Tackle product waste and excess packaging



Targets ending 2025	
Reduce our still wine bottle weight average by 10% to under 450g by 2025.	Achieved ✓
At least 80% of bottles and cases sold to include over 50% recycled content by 2025.	Missed

New targets	
Reduce still and sparkling bottle weights in line with the Bottle Weight Accord	By 2030
Increase recycled content in bottles, cases & cartons, labels and closures y-o-y from 2023 baseline	Year-on-year progress



Successes

Becoming signatories of the Still & Sparkling Bottle Weight Accord

This year, we formalised our support by becoming signatories of the Sustainable Wine Roundtable’s Bottle Weight Accord. It was a big step, but a commitment we really wanted to make as we try to become a more sustainable wine sector.

The Still Weight accord, which challenges producers to use bottles 420g or lighter when empty is something we have been working on for the last few years. We were thrilled to see that our average bottle weight is now 405g, not just below the 420g accord target, but well below our 450g ambition for the year.

This wouldn’t be possible without brands such as Félines Jourdan, who for example, earlier this year worked to reduce the weight of their Picpoul de Pinet empty bottle to 420g - a massive 120g lighter than the previous bottle used!

We recognise that this area is always moving as we bring on new suppliers, and new ranges, but we are really proud of the amount of work the value chain has done to reach this goal ahead of the accords’ 2026 deadline.

The sparkling bottle weight accord has only just launched, and we know this is going to be a far bigger challenge, but one we’re excited to see progress over the coming years.

Buying When in Rome

November saw the acquisition of the When in Rome wine brand, bringing together two B Corp businesses with shared values and a commitment to sustainability, transparency, and quality. This marked a significant step forward in our ambition to expand our range of sustainable and alternative wine formats. By championing wines sourced directly from independent Italian producers and

packaging them in innovative formats, When in Rome has appealed to environmentally conscious consumers and helped to reshape perceptions of alternative wine packaging. We’re excited for the next year as we begin to explore ways to push the brand further with sustainability front and centre.



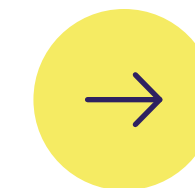


Bumps in the road

Although we were targeting to have at least 80% of bottles and cases sold to include over 50% recycled content by 2025, we failed to meet this. Focus on reducing weight has played a part, but we're also conscious that for some suppliers, increasing recycled materials simply isn't possible. It's something we are going to continue to work on with suppliers, but with ambitions focusing on year-on-year improvement instead.

We also have a full suite of additional packaging-related KPIs that we monitor. The aspirational targets set against these were exceptionally high, something we now know to be unobtainable in such a short timeframe. Moving forward we are going to be looking at this data in more detail to understand how best we can support suppliers to make the changes. We still want to get there, we just know it's going to take a lot more collaboration.

Salzl Seewinkelhof, Burgenland, Austria



The year ahead

In 2026, we have three main focuses for 'Packaging':

1. Data, data and more data

We already collect vast amounts of data regarding our packaging for EPR, but over the next year we want to become really clear on the reports we need to run to support our progress. This will hopefully enable us to better monitor where we are against our targets, whilst also reducing the need for the team to start from scratch for each of the data queries.

2. Reduce bottle weight of sparkling bottles

Although we have made fantastic progress on the still bottle weight accord, we know that there is still some room for improvement. Similarly, with the launch of the Sparkling bottle weight accord, we want to continue engaging with our suppliers to explore what, if any, weight reductions would be possible for the future.


3. Exploring how to reduce emissions of packaging with When in Rome

When in Rome has a clear market focus, being a leader of canned wine from its creation but we don't just want to sit still. We plan to explore what possible changes we could make in the future which would help us reduce the emissions of the products first. This will all start with relooking at the product specific carbon footprints.



Reduce and remove emissions throughout our value chain

Targets ending 2025	
We aim to get our Environmental Management System ISO 14001 certified by 2025.	Achieved ✓
We aim to transition the entire sales team to our electric car scheme by 2025.	Achieved where feasible ✓
We plan to move to 100% renewable energy in our office by 2025.	Achieved ✓
We commit to having a Net Zero target and reduction strategy by 2025.	Partially achieved



New targets	
Net Zero for direct operations (Scope 1 & 2).	2030
Net Zero for the Value Chain (Scope 3).	2050
Reduce emissions per bottle of wine sold by 20%.	2030
Bulk shipped wine to make up 25% of sales.	Ongoing



Successes

ISO 14001

In November, we were thrilled to officially achieve ISO 14001:2015 certification, the internationally recognised standard for environmental management systems. This marks a significant milestone in our ongoing commitment to environmental responsibility.

This achievement didn't happen overnight. It was the result of an 18-month programme that involved our entire team working to embed sustainable practices throughout our direct operations. Whilst many of these practices were already part of how we work, the certification process has given us a robust framework for documenting and standardising our environmental activities across the business.

This will be a certification we work to maintain and improve upon in the coming years.



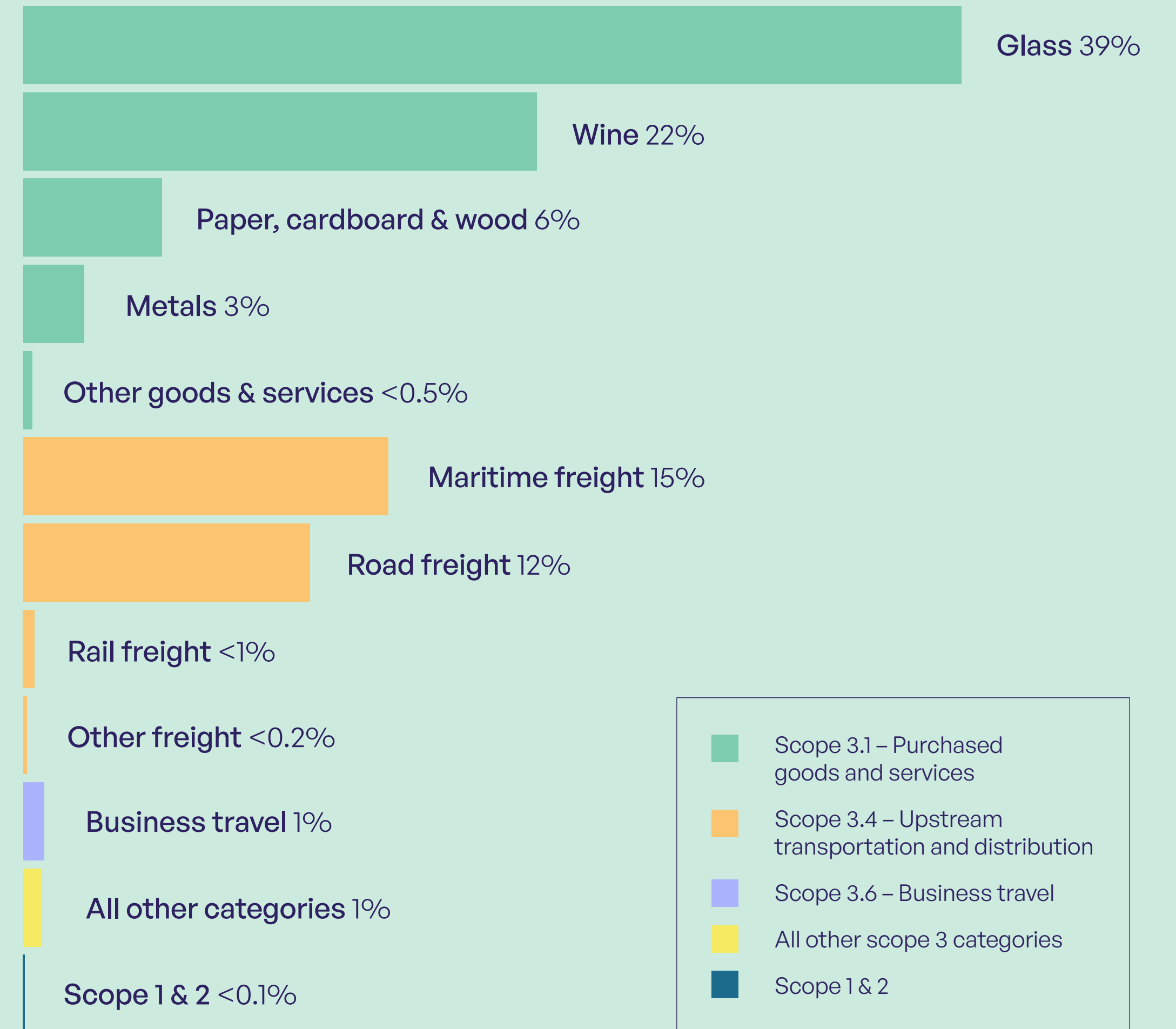
Carbon footprinting

In our last report, we shared our very first carbon footprint using data from 2022/23. It was a great starting point, but this year we really wanted to get our numbers properly in sync with our business reporting cycles. To make that happen, we took on the massive task of gathering and looking at three full years of data: 2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26.

It was a lot of work, but completely worth it. Thanks to some handy system updates and better data sharing, we've been able to map out our packaging and logistics in much greater detail.

Because we are tracking so much more now, our total footprint looks higher on paper. However, the reality is that we just have a much clearer, more honest picture of our impact than when we first started.

2026 Carbon Footprint



Why did our 2025/26 carbon footprint go up?

- **Better supplier info:** We received much more detailed packaging data from our suppliers, particularly relating to pallets and cardboard, which we had not previously included.
- **Closer tracking:** We included customer deliveries from our UK bottling site for the first time, increasing our road freight numbers.
- **Bulk shipping quirks:** We've been doing more bulk shipping but the benefits haven't been reflected in the footprint. Right now, we log this as equivalent bottles shipped (which includes average bottle weight) instead of the actual litres of wine in flexi-tanks. As a result, our ocean freight emissions appear higher than they actually are.
- **We sold a lot more wine:** We sold nearly 20% more cases of wine than in 2025, which naturally drove up emissions across our entire value chain.

	2022/23 (tCO ₂ e)	2025/26 (tCO ₂ e)
Scope 1	22	3.8
Scope 2	8.2	7.4
Scope 3	12,137.7	14,419

Our Carbon Footprint Over Time

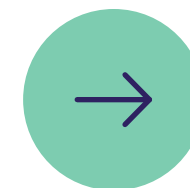


* All other emissions includes our emissions from Travel & commute, Product consumption, Waste, Purchased services, Digital, Assets, Activities & events



Bumps in the road

We have started discussions with some of our suppliers regarding their environmental data outside of packaging information, but this is still in its infancy. As a result, we still have a long way to go before our data reflects the specific vineyards or even countries of origin for the vineyards that we use. It's an area we are conscious needs improvement, and is an ongoing industry challenge, but it's essential so that we can tell better stories and have data driven conversations which reflect the incredible work so many of our partners do.



The year ahead

In 2026, we have 3 main focuses for our 'Value Chain':

1. Updating our ISO 14001

April saw us move into a new office building on the same site. This move came with some great environmental benefits including moving from an EPC E to EPC B. However, this move also means that we need to review all of the internal processes at the office to ensure that it will still meet the ISO14001 standards when we are audited again later in 2026.

2. Building out our Net Zero approach in more detail

With so much of our emissions reliant on our value chain, and as we continue to grow as a business, we recognise the tension. Although our ambition is to reach Net Zero, our near-term focus is on emissions intensity: reducing the carbon footprint per bottle of wine sold by 20% by 2030. Over the coming year, we will develop a clearer strategy, with particular attention to packaging and logistics.

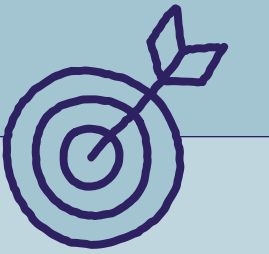
3. Strengthening our data

Last year we completed three carbon footprints, giving us a far clearer picture of our emissions hot spots and the data needed to inform future decisions. Over the coming year, we want to ensure that we continue to build a strong data base, using as many accurate data points instead of estimates as possible. By doing so we hope our data will begin to reflect more of our business decisions and successes. This will require close collaboration, both internally and with our suppliers, to build a more robust and reliable emissions picture.

05

Sourcing

Only partner with growers & producers who share our values.



Targets ending 2025	
We aim to maintain our annual BRCGS audit with AA grade.	Achieved ✓
We will conduct our annual supplier satisfaction survey with the target of achieving over 4.5/5.	Partially achieved
We want to work with all our significant suppliers to ensure they have environmental &/or social certifications by 2025.	Partially achieved

New targets	
All suppliers have a sustainability related certification & share environmental and social data.	2030
Complete human rights risk assessment and put in place action and engagement plan for high risk partners.	2027



Successes

Supplier survey

Our annual supplier survey took place over the summer, with 55% of our suppliers responding. We were thrilled that the majority of feedback was positive or very positive with 92% of suppliers surveyed agreeing that they would recommend North South Wines as a distribution/business partner and 90% see the value in North South Wines being a B Corp.

Maintaining BRCGS Agents and Brokers AA

In June, we successfully maintained our top AA grade for the fifth year running. This achievement reflects our commitment to upholding the highest standards in product quality and safety management among UK wine importers and distributors. For our customers, this accreditation provides vital reassurance of that commitment, confirming the strength of our internal controls and the total integrity of our supply chain.

Work with suppliers to maintain and improve quality assurance in our sourcing.

We work with 45 winery suppliers of different shapes and sizes spread across the globe, which requires us to do our due diligence so that we can be confident in their quality management systems.

Currently 62% of our suppliers are BRCGS certified, with a further 14% who have IFS certification. This means 76% of suppliers hold GFSI accreditation (BRC, IFS, or FSSC 22000), the global benchmark standards for quality assurance in wine production.

We're thrilled that the majority of our suppliers either maintained or improved their audit score (BRC and IFS included) over the last year – for BRC, 93% of certified suppliers are A Grade or above, with 54% having the top scores (AA or AA+).

We also continue to believe in sourcing from smaller wineries that are less likely to hold formal technical certifications. For these partners, our Technical team works closely with them to ensure robust quality systems are in place, regularly maintained and tested.

Domaines Paul Mas, Languedoc, France





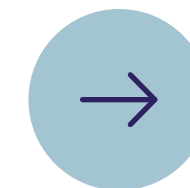
Bumps in the road

Ensuring all our suppliers have environmental &/or social certifications

We are proud that nearly all our suppliers have sustainability certifications in place. However, as we continue to work with smaller wineries, we have to be realistic and acknowledge that one or two may not yet hold formal credentials.

While it is frustrating to miss our 100% target because of this, it's a reality of the landscape we operate in. In these cases, we are choosing to stay the course with these producers and push for progress, rather than letting a lack of paperwork stand in the way of a great partnership.

Giesen Wines, Marlborough, New Zealand



The year ahead

In 2026, we have 2 main focuses for our 'Sourcing' pillar:

1. Beginning our annual supplier sustainability questionnaire

We know that sustainability isn't a static position, and so although we have always prioritised sustainability during suppliers' initial onboarding, we are keen to ensure we stay up to date on the progress, big or small, that suppliers are making. Over the next year, we are planning to introduce an annual sustainability questionnaire, moving away from a one-time snapshot towards a regular pulse check and shared dialogue.

2. Sharing more of the brilliant work our suppliers are doing

We want to do even more this year to champion our suppliers' achievements. By increasing our internal awareness, engaging with the press, and bringing producers together to share their direct experiences, we're aiming to give the great work happening at their wineries the recognition it deserves.



north southwines



From us all at North South Wines, thank you for reading and here's to another year of impact. Cheers!



Get in touch

Call: +44 (0) 2038 719210

Email: hello@northsouthwines.co.uk