# Unlocking Net Zero: An Introduction to the Support Ecosystem for UK SMEs

11<sup>th</sup> February 2025



Business Connect



# Our Purpose & Vision

We are part of Innovate UK, the UK's innovation agency.

We create diverse connections to drive positive change.

To establish a network of innovators so powerful its ideas will change the world.



#### **Our Network**



46,229
Unique
Organisations



**72%** Small

15% Medium

**13%** Large



**335,478** innovators



**Every university** in the UK



# Innovate UK Net Zero Living Programme



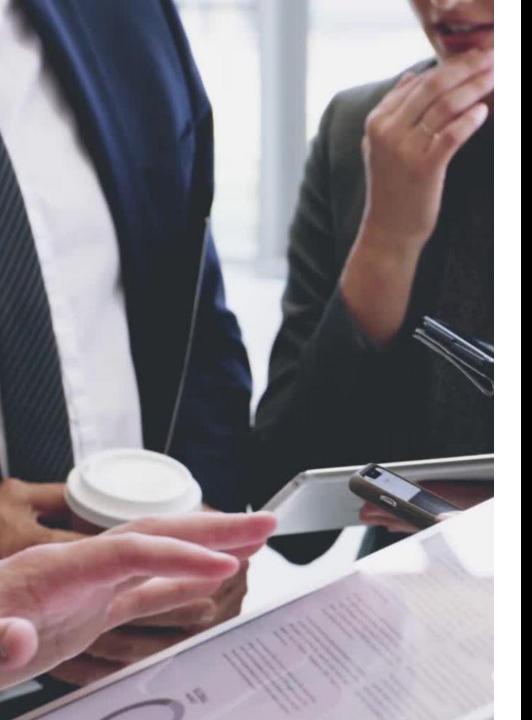
A £60 million, three-year programme that aims to help places and businesses across the UK to accelerate the delivery of the transition to net zero.

#### Two core focus areas

Providing support to 52 local authorities, their partners and communities to overcome non-technical systemic barriers to the scaling and adoption of net zero solutions.

Supporting businesses to better understand and respond to the needs, opportunities and barriers preventing the large-scale roll out of net zero solutions.





There is a growing appetite and recognition among SMEs that acting on Net Zero is imperative

However, many UK SMEs lack the capacity and support required to make and implement changes.



Net Zero Programme Director

Net Zero Programme Director

Decarbonisation Adviser

Sustainability Team Leader

**Efficiency Team** Manager

**UK Business Climate** Hub

**Broadway Initiative & Federation of Small Businesses** 

**Business Wales** 

**Scottish Enterprise** 

**Invest Northern** Ireland

**Energy and Resource** 

**Dr Chris Taylor** 



Ian O'Donnell

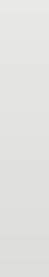
**Dr Sarah Gore** 



**Ian Carstairs** 



**Daniel Purdy** 



#### Net Zero Programme Director

Broadway Initiative & UK Business Climate Hub

**Dr Chris Taylor** 







#### **UK Business Climate Hub**

Partnership between UK business, finance and government to support UK businesses

11th February 2025

#### **UK Business Climate Hub**

- The UK Business Climate Hub provides net zero advice for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in the UK.
- It is a shared endeavour, developed by the <u>Broadway</u> <u>Initiative</u> with the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ), the SME Climate Hub and the UK's main business organisations, energy networks, high street banks, other leading corporates, and professional bodies.
- The SME Climate Hub is the global initiative which empowers SMEs to make the SME Climate Commitment.
- www.businessclimatehub.uk



# Reduce energy costs and cut carbon: it's good for business



Join thousands of businesses committed to taking climate action with the SME Climate Hub



MANAGE CONSENT

Broadway
Government INITIATIVE

Climate

The UK Business Climate Hub is a collaboration between the UK Government, businesses and business groups across the UK. The Hub is the UK partner of the SME Climate Hub, the global initiative which empowers small and medium-sized enterprises to take climate action. Find out more...

#### Take action now



The UK Net Zero
Business Census

Help us understand how much progress UK businesses have made on getting to net zero.



Commercial
building and home
energy use

Plan a retrofit, check building regulations, improve HVAC and insulation, get a heat pump, and more.



Electric vehicles

Find out how to reduce emissions and save money by switching to electric vehicles and identifying alternative modes of transport.



Renewable energy

Find out about the different features, installation and funding opportunities for these renewable energy technologies and green energy suppliers.



Reduce waste and maximise resources



Supply chain

Find out how sustainable

Product labels and certifications



Farming and land

#### Take action now



#### The UK Net Zero Business Census

Help us understand how much progress UK businesses have made on getting to net zero.



# Commercial building and home energy use

Plan a retrofit, check building regulations, improve HVAC and insulation, get a heat pump, and more.



#### Electric vehicles and transport

Find out how to reduce emissions and save money by switching to electric vehicles and identifying alternative modes of transport.



#### Renewable energy

Find out about the different features, installation and funding opportunities for these renewable energy technologies and green energy suppliers.



#### Reduce waste and maximise resources

The production, use and disposal of materials and products has a large carbon footprint. Find out how businesses can take action to maximise the use of materials and products before they become waste.



#### Supply chain

Find out how sustainable products and supply chains can benefit your business and the planet.



#### Product labels and certifications

There are a number of product labels that certify low carbon emissions or other beneficial environmental actions.



#### Farming and land

Land use changes are required for the UK to reach its goal of net zero emissions by 2050.

#### 7 Steps to Sustainability

You don't have to do these steps in order. There are actions you could decide to take today.

<u>Understand the basics</u>

Find out everything you need to know about what net zero means and why it matters.

2 Involve your team

Get staff positively engaged and bring in external support to reinforce your plan.

3 Make the SME Climate Commitment

Make a commitment to climate action, access tools to reduce emissions, and disclose your progress.

4 Make a plan

Measure your current carbon emissions and start to plan to reduce them.

5 Take action

Take steps to reduce your emissions by theme or by sector.

Find finance and support

Find sources of funding and support on green loans, grants and other incentives.

Look beyond your own business
Get product certifications and labels, build a green supply chain, reduce business travel and more actions to reduce emissions.

#### **Insights**

Our case studies and thought leadership articles offer valuable insights from entrepreneurs to help you transition to net zero.



Greencore Homes: paving the way for a new standard for low carbon construction



Crystal Doors: setting clear standards for net zero manufacturing



Electricity North West: Do you know your DNOs from your DSOs?



Miranda Barker: The business case for sustainability



Martin McTague: Green knowledge is power



Martin Baxter: Skills for a Net Zero Future



How Cooper King Distillery is leading the way: crafting England's first net zero energy whisky



Dark Woods Coffee's Path to Net Zero



Architecture firm Make put sustainability at the heart of its building projects

#### Find finance and support across the UK

This list was last updated on 2 October 2024. <u>Use our 'add a source of finance or support' form</u> to have a programme added to this section.

#### National support and funding

**Across the UK** 

**England** 

**Northern Ireland** 

**Scotland** 

**Wales** 

#### Regional support in England

**East of England** 

**East Midlands** 

**Greater London** 

**North East England** 

**North West England** 

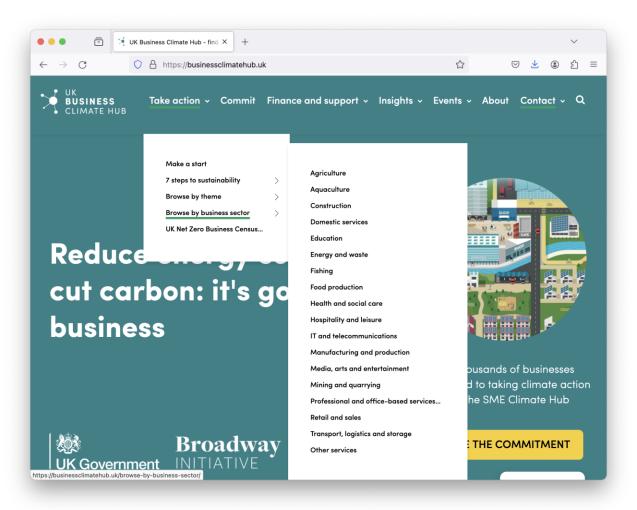
**South East England** 

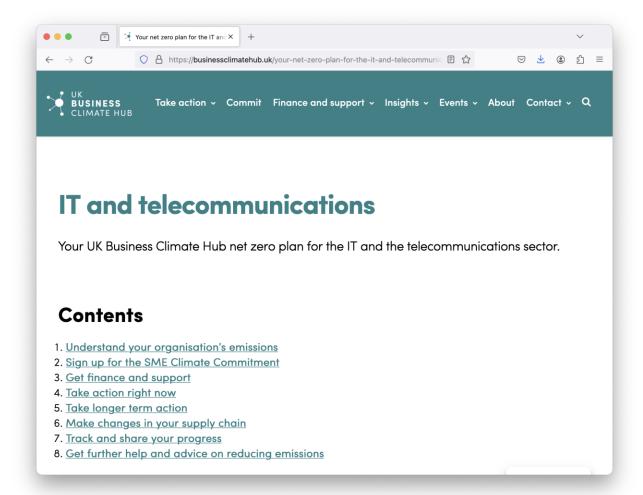
**South West England** 

**West Midlands** 

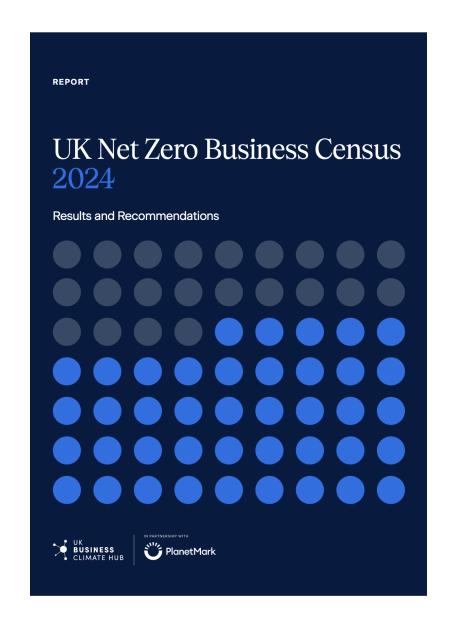
Yorkshire and Humber

#### Sector-focused guides





#### businessclimatehub.uk/census/



# How to get involved

Tell us what you're doing <a href="mailto:chris@broadwayinitiative.org.uk">chris@broadwayinitiative.org.uk</a>

• Visit <u>www.businessclimatehub.uk</u> to find out more

• Find local support at <u>businessclimatehub.uk/finance-and-support-across-the-uk/</u>

Find events at <u>businessclimatehub.uk/events/</u>



#### Net Zero Programme Director

Federation of Small Businesses

Ian O'Donnell

Decarbonisation Adviser

**Business Wales** 

**Dr Sarah Gore** 





## **Beth yw Busnes Cymru?**

Gwasanaeth cymorth busnes Llywodraeth Cymru yw Busnes Cymru, a ariennir yn llawn ac sy'n helpu busnesau Cymru i gyrchu'r wybodaeth, y cyngor a'r gefnogaeth sydd ei hangen arnynt i gynnal a thyfu eu busnesau.

Ym mhob rhan o'i gylch bywyd, o'r cychwyn cyntaf i gyfnod o dyfu, sefydlu ymhellach, ehangu neu aeddfedu, mae gan Busnes Cymru y sgiliau, y profiad a'r wybodaeth i arwain a chynorthwyo uchelgeisiau'r busnes.

Mae'r lefel o gefnogaeth yn cael ei theilwra yn ôl anghenion y busnes ac rydym yn cynnig cymysgedd o gefnogaeth ar-lein ac wyneb yn wyneb, yn ogystal â gweithdai a chyngor unigol.

#### What is Business Wales?

Business Wales is the Welsh Government's fully-funded business support service, helping Welsh businesses to access the information, advice and support they require to run and grow their businesses.

No matter where a business is in their life cycle, from start-up to growth phase, established, expanding or maturity, Business Wales has the skills, experience and knowledge to guide and assist the ambitions of business.

The level of support is tailored according to the business needs and we offer a mixture of online and face-to-face support, as well as workshops and individual advice.



- Cyngor busnes cyffredinol
- Cyngor tendro
- Cydraddoldeb, amrywiaeth a chyngor AD
- Cyngor amgylcheddol, datgarboneiddio a chyngor effeithiolrwydd adnoddau
- Cymorth allforio
- Cefnogaeth ddigidol

- Porth Sgiliau
- Mentora busnes
- Gweithdai ar ystod eang o bynciau gan gynnwys cyrchu tendrau cyllid busnes a recriwtio staff
- Cynghorwyr profiadol yn cynnig cyngor rhithiol neu wyneb yn wyneb

- General business advice
- Tendering advice
- Equality, diversity and HR advice
- Environmental, decarbonisation and resource efficiency advice
- Export support
- Digital support

- Skills Gateway
- Business mentoring
- Workshops on a wide range of subjects including accessing business finance, tendering and recruiting staff
- Experienced advisers offer virtual or face-to-face business advice



## **Cyngor Busnes Cyffredinol**

- Twf Busnes
- Marchnata
- Mynediad at arian
- TGCh
- Safleoedd

- Parodrwydd ar gyfer y Sector Preifat
- Rhwydweithio

#### **General Business Advice**

- Business Growth
- Marketing
- Access to Finance
- ICT
- Premises

- Private Sector
  - Readiness
- Networking

## **Datgarboneiddio / Decarbonisation**

- **Support Businesses**: Offer expert guidance and resources to help businesses implement sustainable practices efficiently.
- **Promote Environmental Responsibility**: Encourage companies to reduce their environmental impact through innovative solutions and best practices.
- Facilitate Compliance: Assist businesses in meeting government regulations and sustainability pledges, such as the UK's Net Zero by 2050.
- Enhance Competitiveness: Improve business operations to save costs, boost brand reputation, and attract eco-conscious consumers.
- Foster Long-term Growth: Equip businesses with strategies and tools to ensure resilience and growth in a sustainable future.

#### **Gwasanaethau / Services**

- Carbon Calculations and Reduction Plan: Identifies the largest sources of emissions within a company. Can then provide a strategy with realistic methods to reduce these emissions.
- Help Set Targets: Setting realistic targets for lowering energy bills, reducing waste, and achieving
   Net Zero.
- Green Growth Pledge: Certification of a company's commitment to becoming more sustainable.
   Green Growth Pledge Plus: Monitoring of actions to evidence improvements.
- Support Businesses Acquiring Funding
- **Signposting:** We work closely with the universities, third sector, and the private sector so if we can't help ourselves, we will know someone can.

#### **CASE STUDY #1 THE BUTCHERS ARMS**

- 1. Advise what work needs to be done
- insulating the building
- replacing the costly oil boiler
- solar panels
- 2. Support to complete the work:
- Finding funding
- Estimate CO2 savings
- Review quotes
- 3. Review of policies:
- Green Growth Pledge



"Sarah was the best person to help me streamline and solidify my green goals for The Butchers Arms and put them into thorough written plans which helped me secure essential funding."

#### **CASE STUDY #2 KORBUILD**

- Met with Korbuild to support with tender application
- Advised on carbon reduction/sustainability question
- Reviewed and updated policies



"Following the recent support we received ... we have been successful on one of the lots we tendered for."

#### **CASE STUDY #3 MILKSHED**

milkshed

- Met with Milkshed to support a grant application
- Advised on carbon reduction/sustainability question
- CO2 estimations

"We were successful....Without a question due to the help and advice you offered."

#### **CASE STUDY #4 CERRIG GRANITE & SLATE**

Calculated their emissions and produced a Carbon Reduction Plan

Signpost to Green Business Loan led to businesses getting a £30k loan to help fund the installation of a 70 kW Solar PV system.

Reducing the business' energy costs and carbon emissions by around £10,000 and 9 tonnes of Carbon per year respectively



#### 03000 6 03000 trading@businesswales.org

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Sustainability Team Leader

**Scottish Enterprise** 

**Ian Carstairs** 





# Unlocking Net Zero

Scotland's Net Zero Support Ecosystem Ian Carstairs – Scottish Enterprise 11 February, 2025



# Scottish Enterprise

Scotland's national economic development agency

 Leading role in delivering the ambitions of the National Strategy for Economic Transformation (NSET)

 Transform Scotland's economy through investment, innovation & internationalisation



## Our Net Zero Support



**Net Zero Practices** 

Sustainability Specialist Advice
Net Zero Business Guides
Renewable Energy Options Appraisal
Feasibility Support
Capital Investment Grants



**Net Zero Products** 

Product Carbon Impact Programme
Offshore Wind Fact Sheets
Supply Chain Ready - OSW
Innovation Specialist Support
Clean Heat Expert Support
Clean Heat 2025

#### Team Scotland



















Energy and Resource Efficiency Team Manager

**Invest Northern Ireland** 

**Daniel Purdy** 





11th February 2025

**Daniel Purdy** 

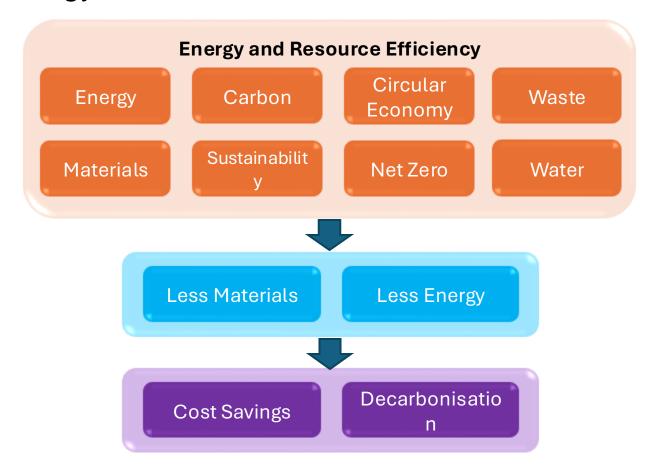
### Agenda

- Who we are and what ERE team do
- Remit of ERE support
- ERE Support schemes
- Other Options available to decarbonise



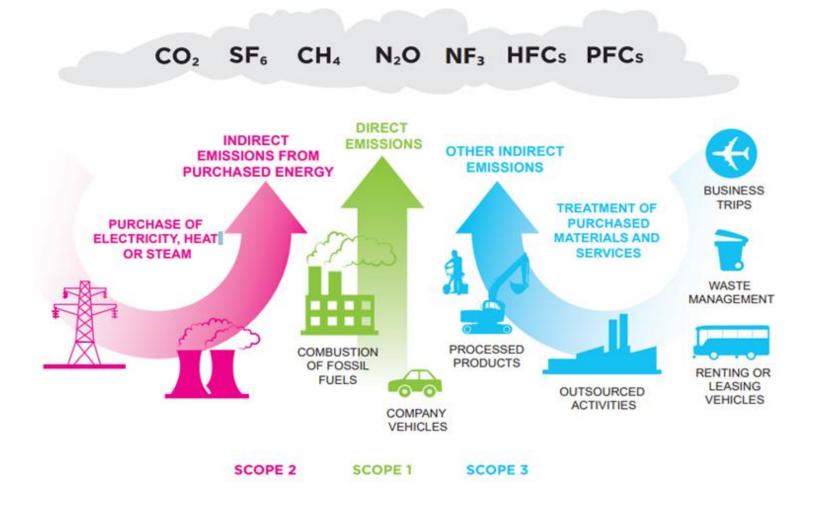
#### What we do-

 Support for existing businesses to become more efficient in their use of materials and energy –





## Where do we help!



#### Scope 1

Oil fired heating
Gas ovens
CO2 Cement Factories
Leaking refrigerant

# Scope 2 Electricity

#### Scope 3

Suppliers Scope 1 & 2
Supply chain
Shipping to/from
Flights
Employee Commuting



## **ERE Support schemes**

- Technical Consultancy is available to all businesses with an annual energy and resource spend in excess of £30k. This support offers fully funded technical audits, feasibility studies, and advice, complete with a report and recommendations to help businesses identify cost and carbon savings through energy and resource efficiency.
- Sustainability reports are available to all businesses with an annual energy and resource spend in excess of £30k. The aim of the report is to provide a holistic assessment/understanding of a business's environmental performance across a number of areas, such as; Raw Materials, Energy, Carbon Footprinting, Packaging, Biodiversity and Waste.
- A Resource Matching Service open to all businesses in Northern Ireland that offers opportunities to convert redundant materials of one business, into a resource for another business.
- The Resource Efficiency Capital Grant provides support to eligible Invest NI client companies to help with the
  cost of investing in resource efficient technologies that will drive savings and business productivity. Grants of up
  to £50k are available to help with the purchasing of new equipment.
- The Energy Efficiency Capital Grant provides support to all eligible NI businesses to help with the cost of
  investing in energy efficient technologies that will drive savings and business productivity and reduce energy
  consumption and carbon emissions. Grants of up to £150k are available to help with the purchasing of new
  energy efficient technologies/equipment.



## **Scheme Overview**

Scheme	Availability	Cost Reductions	Energy Reductions	Materials Reductions	Carbon Reductions	Carbon Reporting
Technical Consultancy	Clients & Non Clients (>£30k Spend)	Υ	Υ	Y	Υ	Υ
Sustainability Reports	Clients & Non Clients (>£30k Spend)	-	-	<del>-</del>	-	Υ
Resource Matching	Clients & Non Clients	Y	Y	Y	Υ	-
Resource Efficiency Capital Grant	Clients only	Υ	Indirectly	Υ	Υ	-
Energy Efficiency Capital Grant	Clients & Non Clients	Y	Y	N	Υ	-



#### **Decarbonising – Other INI support**

- TAU TDI for Scope 3 Assessment, Support for Implementation of Environmental Standards e.g. B-Corp. (SMEs only)
- R&D and TAU Research into use of alternative/recycled materials, lightweighting products
- Supply Chain Resilience and Development Optimising supply chain processes and performance, reducing risk, near shoring, reducing transport associated CO2
- Operational Excellence Optimised + efficient processes, improved use and utilisation of materials, energy and equipment







#### Energy and Resource Efficiency ere@investni.com













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# Upcoming events





29/01/2025 - 26/02/2025

Online

Climate Change Adaptation - Webinar Series

Register for this series ->



24/02/2025 - 28/04/2025

Online

Meet the Innovator – Webinar Series

Register for this series→









#### **Net Zero Guides for SMEs**

- Guide for SMEs about switching to an EV fleet <a href="https://goforzero.co.uk/">https://goforzero.co.uk/</a>
- Guide to reducing emissions from energy including rented offices <a href="https://bristolclimatenature.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Guide-to-reducing-emissions-from-energy.pdf">https://bristolclimatenature.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Guide-to-reducing-emissions-from-energy.pdf</a>
- Three ways landlords can support net zero targets <a href="https://www.fsb.org.uk/resources-page/three-ways-landlords-can-support-net-zero-targets.html">https://www.fsb.org.uk/resources-page/three-ways-landlords-can-support-net-zero-targets.html</a>
- Business in the Community <u>Seven Steps for Climate Action Toolkit</u>
- Sustainability Words and Phrases Definitions <u>Net-Zero-Awareness-Blog-Definitions-FINAL.pdf (bas.ac.uk)</u> and <u>Carbon Glossary | Normative</u>
- The UK government-backed hub for SMEs with tools, resources and guides to Net Zero **UK Business Climate Hub**
- SME hub by FSB <a href="https://www.fsb.org.uk/knowledge/fsb-infohub/small-business-sustainability-hub.html">https://www.fsb.org.uk/knowledge/fsb-infohub/small-business-sustainability-hub.html</a>
- Test your Net Zero knowledge The Climate Game Can you reach net zero? (ft.com)
- Guide to Net Zero for SMEs From Now to Net Zero: A Practical Guide for SMEs | Lloyds Bank



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#### **Carbon Footprinting**

- Short and free course on how to Measure, Reduce, and Offset your Company's Carbon Footprint -<a href="https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/how-to-measure-reduce-and-offset-your-companys-carbon-footprint">https://www.futurelearn.com/courses/how-to-measure-reduce-and-offset-your-companys-carbon-footprint</a>
- Excellent guide to carbon footprinting for businesses which includes a list of data that is required to do carbon footprint <a href="https://greensmallbusiness.com/small-business-carbon-footprint-guide/">https://greensmallbusiness.com/small-business-carbon-footprint-guide/</a>
- Free and very useful carbon footprint calculator with an action plan from Natwest -<a href="https://carbonplanner.natwest.com/#/footprint">https://carbonplanner.natwest.com/#/footprint</a>
- Carbon footprint for individuals <a href="https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/">https://footprint.wwf.org.uk/#/</a>
- Small business guide to preparing a Carbon Reduction Plan when supplying to public sector PPN 06/21 <a href="https://greensmallbusiness.com/preparing-a-carbon-reduction-plan/">https://greensmallbusiness.com/preparing-a-carbon-reduction-plan/</a>
- Conversion factors data sets from around the world including the UK -<a href="https://www.climatiq.io/explorer?search=shredding">https://www.climatiq.io/explorer?search=shredding</a>
- Conversion factors UK <a href="https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2022">https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2022</a>



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#### **Skills**

- Guide and toolkit Greening your organisation: A blueprint for a green workforce transformation <a href="https://www.iema.net/all-jobs-greener">https://www.iema.net/all-jobs-greener</a>
- A guide and a checklist with resources to ensuring that every job in a company is a climate job -<a href="https://drawdown.org/programs/drawdown-labs/job-function-action-guides">https://drawdown.org/programs/drawdown-labs/job-function-action-guides</a>
- Playbook for accountants to support their SME clients: <u>SME Toolkit: Creating a sustainable world | ACCA Global</u>

