



Sustainable Glasgow Green Economy Hub

Delivering a Sustainable Glasgow Together

A charter promoting and celebrating ambitious Glasgow business action to achieve net-zero carbon by 2030

June 2021



Sustainable Glasgow



GLASGOW
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



Balfour Beatty



Introduction

As Scotland enters the countdown to hosting the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in November 2021, Glasgow has a unique opportunity to demonstrate that a genuinely sustainable legacy can be achieved from hosting the event. Sustainable Glasgow will be the principal means through which partners can contribute to positive messaging and the projection of good news stories to the public over the next year and indeed in subsequent years. The City's key businesses and employers can and must show leadership in delivering real progress on the net-zero future of Glasgow.

The Sustainable Glasgow Green Economy Hub Charter is a commitment by leading businesses and employers in Scotland's largest city, and host of COP26, to take action within their own organisations and sectors to contribute to a green recovery and radically reduce the City's carbon emissions.

The Green Economy Hub is for those organisations who are committed to being leaders in the race to net zero and who are dedicated to delivering a sustainable and circular Glasgow together.

In 2020, Glasgow City Council's Climate Emergency Working Group made 61 recommendations ranging across all areas of city activity. Few of them can be delivered by the Council alone and they therefore set both a context and a significant challenge for a city-wide partnership. The climate emergency report sets, in effect, a new approach to an already familiar agenda for partners to consider and it is proposed that the City's response to its recommendations is led through Sustainable Glasgow.

Sustainable Glasgow will convene, catalyse and challenge organisations that commit to the Green Economy Hub Charter, recognising and celebrating not just what those organisations are doing now, but what they will do on the journey to net zero and a green recovery.

The Green Economy Hub Charter represents a step on the path to a 'new normal' of sustainable business practice in a thriving green city.

Sustainable Glasgow also recognises that the City is driven by a large population of small to medium enterprises (SMEs) who may require significant support to deliver against the commitments in this Charter. Those SMEs who sign up to the ambition of delivering this Charter may be able to access support through Scotland's sustainable business support ecosystem which includes Business Gateway, Scottish Enterprise, Zero Waste Scotland, the Energy Savings Trust and SEPA.

For further information and support for SMEs to deliver the ambition of this charter, please see the **Supplementary note for small to medium enterprises** at www.sustainableglasgow.org.uk



Charter Pledge

As representatives of key businesses and employers in Glasgow, we, the “City Climate Champions” of the Sustainable Glasgow Green Economy Hub Charter hereby undertake to:

Effect significant and demonstrable change in our business practices resulting in an accelerated reduction in climate emissions that contribute to Glasgow’s net-zero carbon target.

In doing this we will:

Operations

- Share within a month of signature what action we are currently taking to address climate change and our current emissions.
- Take demonstrable actions to contribute to the reduction of carbon emissions (by COP26 in November 2021 and beyond).
- Publish online (by November 2021 latest) our plan to cut carbon emissions within our organisation with identified [annual/biannual/other] target dates for progress.
- Include in this plan a commitment to engage across the whole value chain to drive emissions reductions.
- Set out how we will embed assessment of climate impact into all organisational and investment decisions.

Influence and Leadership

- Communicate our approach to tackling climate change and promote the importance of greater efforts to tackle climate change.
- Share learning with members of the Sustainable Glasgow Green Economy Hub and other city organisations looking to accelerate action on climate change.
- Roll out climate literacy for staff, including the management team as a minimum.
- Promote, support and enable employee choices and behaviours to contribute positively to a net-zero future.
- Maximise the impact of procurement across the value chain to accelerate emissions reductions with particular focus on capital investment decision making.

Where **applicable** to our organisation we will also:

Transport

- Integrate the sustainable travel hierarchy into our organisation’s operations and future business planning and target a long-term improvement on pre-2020 levels.
- Prioritise sustainable and active regional travel choices by our workforces.
- Invest in a switch to zero emission company owned vehicles.

Buildings & Facilities

- Commit to a clear programme of deep retrofit of the organisational estate.
- Switch all energy use to sustainable energy sources and commit to purchasing heat/power from local district networks if available and viable for our organisation.
- Explore the potential of the organisational estate to generate renewable and sustainable energy and contribute to increased greenspace, biodiversity and sequestration.
- Prioritise locally sourced, seasonal, **sustainable food** for our employees and/or customers and integrate the **food waste hierarchy** into our organisation’s operations and future business planning.

Signed by the City Climate Champions for Sustainable Glasgow Green Economy.



Large Enterprise Champions

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Glasgow City Council: Susan Atkinson Date: 20th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Glasgow Chamber of Commerce: James Smith Date: 17th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

ScottishPower: KSA Date: 20th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

University of Strathclyde: James McDonald Date: 20th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

University of Glasgow: Shirley Jaime L Toney Date: 13th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Scottish Enterprise: Allan McQuade Date: 28th May 2021



CLIMATE CHAMPION:

NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde:  Date: 17th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Skills Development Scotland:  Date: 8th June 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Wheatley Group:  Date: 1st June 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Clyde Gateway:  Date: 21st May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

SPT:  Date: 18th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Glasgow Airport:  Date: 12 May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Deloitte:  Date: 12th May 2021



CLIMATE CHAMPION:

ACS Clothing: ANTHONY BURNS, A. Burns Date: 17th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Babcock: [Signature] Date: 17th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Scottish Water: [Signature] Date: 19th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Balfour Beatty: [Signature] Date: 17th May 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Edrington: [Signature] Date: 22nd June 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Organisation Name: _____ Date: _____ 2021

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Organisation Name: _____ Date: _____ 2021



Small & Medium Enterprise Champions

We aspire to delivering the commitments of this Charter with the support of Scotland's sustainable business support ecosystem and our fellow Champions from the Large Enterprise community.

CLIMATE CHAMPION:

Organisation Name: _____ Date: _____ 2021

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH



**Sustainable
Glasgow**