



**EDINBURGH  
CLIMATE  
COMMISSION**



# The Edinburgh Climate Compact

# Forward Faster Together

Promoting and celebrating ambitious Edinburgh  
business action to achieve net-zero by 2030.

December 2020



## Introduction

As Scotland enters the twelve-month countdown to hosting COP26, Edinburgh has a unique opportunity to show the world the power of collaboration and the difference we as a City can make to address the climate emergency.

The City's key businesses and employers can and must show leadership in delivering real progress on the net-zero future of Edinburgh.

The Edinburgh Climate Compact is a commitment by the leading businesses and employers in Scotland's Capital to take action within their own organisation and sectors to contribute to a green recovery and radically reduce the city's carbon emissions.

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**The Compact is for those organisations who are committed to being leaders in the race to net-zero and who are dedicated to moving forward, faster, together.**

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The Edinburgh Climate Commission will convene, catalyse and challenge organisations that commit to the Edinburgh Climate Compact, recognising and celebrating not just what those organisations are doing now, but what they *will* do in the journey to net-zero and a green recovery.

The Edinburgh Climate Compact represents a step on the path to a new normal of sustainable business practice in a thriving green city.

## Compact pledge

As representatives of key businesses and employers in Edinburgh, we, the founding “City Climate Champions” of the Edinburgh Climate Compact hereby undertake to:

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

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In doing this we will:

### 1.1 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.

### 1.2 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 Edinburgh Climate Compact 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:

### 1.3 Transport

- Integrate the sustainable travel hierarchy into our organisation's operations, future business planning and lock out a return to the levels of business travel prior to 2020.
- Prioritise sustainable and active travel choices by our workforces, limiting the need to travel for work wherever possible.
- Invest in a switch to zero emission company owned vehicles.

### 1.4 Buildings

- Commit to a clear programme of deep retrofit of the owner organisational estate.
- Maximise and optimise energy use from sustainable energy sources.
- Explore the potential of the organisational estate to generate renewable and sustainable energy and contribute to increased greenspace, biodiversity and sequestration.

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**Signed by the founding City Climate Champions of The Edinburgh  
Climate Compact**

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**FOUNDING CITY CLIMATE CHAMPIONS:**

**CONSTRUCTION SECTOR**

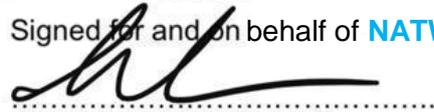
Signed for and on behalf of **ROBERTSON GROUP**



18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**BANKING SECTOR**

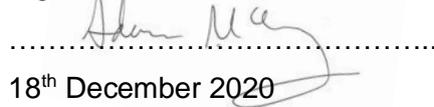
Signed for and on behalf of **NATWEST GROUP**



18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**PUBLIC SECTOR**

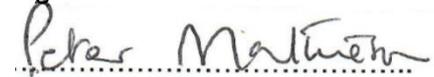
Signed for and on behalf of **THE CITY OF EDINBURGH COUNCIL**



18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**EDUCATION**

Signed for and on behalf of **THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH**



18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**ARTS & CULTURE**

Signed for and on behalf of **EDINBURGH FRINGE FESTIVAL**



18<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**HEALTH / EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Signed for and on behalf of **NHS Lothian**



18<sup>th</sup> December 2020