



Support available to businesses on carbon reduction and sustainability issues

Cambridge City Council have developed this document to signpost businesses to available support, such as grants, advice, training, and practical tools, to help them on their journey to reducing emissions and addressing climate change.

If you would like to suggest any additional sources for inclusion in the list, or would like to amend any of the existing entries, please contact sustainablecity@cambridge.gov.uk

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SUSTAINABILITY

GRANTS AND FUNDING

- **Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Growth Hub** – the [Growth Hub](#) provides resources, support, and advice to businesses in the region including grant funding (when available) and training courses.
- **Innovate UK** - offers grant funding for businesses to work together with a graduate and a university through a [Knowledge Transfer Partnership](#) (KTP) on an innovation project, including knowledge transfer partnerships to accelerate net zero innovations.
- **Anglia Ruskin University** - businesses can access grants, expertise and student talent via their [business services](#).
- **Cambridge BID Independent Support Fund** – a grant pot of £20,000 a year allocated to supporting independent businesses in the city.

ADVICE, TRAINING AND LEARNING

- **Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership** - [CISL](#) works directly with senior leaders, CEOs and boards of organisations to support them to become more sustainable, align their strategy and decisions with the Paris Agreement and drive the transition to net zero across their operations. [Centre for Business Transformation](#) develops solutions to enable business to play their part in a sustainable economy. Several business transformation publications are available.
- **Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership** - [Accelerator](#) provides 12-30 hours of free business support to SMEs in England, with particular focus on sustainability. Programmes typically run 3 times a year on different themes. CISL will also be opening a workspace, exclusively for SMEs with sustainability as a core focus, on Regent Street in Cambridge in late Spring 2022.
- **The Carbon Trust** - offers businesses free, independent advice and a variety of [resources](#) to help accelerate towards Net Zero.
- **Allia Future Business Centre** - offers free [business support programmes](#) and flexible workspace.
- **University of Cambridge Maxwell Centre** – offers [convening, co-location and opportunities for interaction with the University](#).
- **University of Cambridge - Cambridge Enterprise Technology Services** – provides access to [expertise, industry partners and consultancy](#).
- **Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Growth Hub** – the [Growth Hub](#) provides resources, support, and advice to businesses in the region including grant funding (when available) and training courses.
- **Institute of Directors** - [Sustainable Business Hub](#) supports Directors in the adoption and management of sustainability policies and provides news, events, courses and resources.

- **Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosures (TCFD)** - Online Learning Hub [e-learning platform](#) provides free online courses for businesses interested in learning more about climate – related disclosures.
- **Cambridge Zero** - the University of Cambridge new [climate change initiative](#), provides [ideas, insights and proposals](#) from the Cambridge Zero network on advancing a zero carbon world.
- **The Hughes Hall Centre for Climate Change Engagement** - provides useful [insights](#) for board members and business leaders to accelerate climate leadership.
- **Anglia Ruskin University** – ARU’s Global Sustainability Institute shares [research findings and resources](#).
- **Peterborough Environment City Trust** – provides [information and a snapshot of PECT’s latest projects](#), relevant to businesses.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- **Cambridge Carbon Footprint** - The [Cambridge Climate Change Charter](#) is a platform for businesses and individuals, funded by Cambridge City Council and hosted by [Cambridge Carbon Footprint](#). It provides an online carbon footprint calculator which gives practical tailored actions to reduce carbon emissions. Businesses and organisations can find [resources on how to measure and report emissions and decarbonise operations](#) and can demonstrate commitment to positive climate action by [signing the Charter](#) and making a pledge and join a community of climate leaders in Cambridge.
- **The Hughes Hall Centre for Climate Change supports Chapter Zero**, who are aiming to equip non-executive directors to lead boardroom discussions on impacts of climate change, and have developed a [toolkit](#) to help non-executive directors understand and respond to the impacts of climate change on their businesses.
- **Cambridge Institute of Sustainability Leadership** - [Resource Hub](#) includes practitioner-based reports, case studies that highlight examples of sustainability leadership and useful frameworks to help business leaders develop leadership and solutions for a sustainable economy.
- **Allia Future Business Centre** - runs the [Innovation Lab](#) which helps SMEs and innovation teams design, develop and test innovative products and systems, all focused on addressing environmental and social challenges.
- **Cambridge BID** - [Cambridge Sustainable & Green toolkit](#) - a Cambridge focused guide to help businesses of all sizes to help make greener choices, highlighting local recycling and training schemes

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

- **Cambridge Network** is a [membership organisation](#) offering innovative training, business networking, bringing people together from business and academia to share ideas and encourage collaboration.

- **Cambridge Clean Tech** is a [membership organisation](#) connecting corporates, academics, SMEs and investors responding to global sustainability challenges for a smarter, more sustainable future.

ENERGY

GRANTS AND FUNDING

- **Cambridge Green Business Grant Scheme** – the [grant scheme](#) offers grants of up to £10,000 to help businesses reduce its energy consumption, waste and carbon emissions.
- **Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund** - The fund aims to strengthen science and business innovation and unlock greener ways to travel and to heat and power homes. Search the [funding finder](#) for Industrial Strategy Challenge Fund opportunities.
- **Industrial Energy Transformation Fund** – Phase 2 (Autumn 2021 onwards) provides grant funding for feasibility and engineering studies, and for the deployment of industrial energy efficiency and deep decarbonisation projects. Grant funding available to companies in manufacturing, data centres, recovery and recycling of materials and mining and quarrying.
- **Upcoming energy efficiency schemes from 2022** (more information will be published on the [Ofgem website](#)):
 - **Clean Heat Grant** – upfront capital funding for businesses or households that integrate green heating technologies such as heat pumps
 - **Green Gas Support Scheme**: funding support for biomethane injection to increase the amount of green gas in the national grid.
- **Grants Online** - a regularly updated list of [energy, environment and transport grants](#)

ADVICE, TRAINING AND LEARNING

- **The Energy Saving Trust** - support businesses of all sizes to enable them to play their part in building a sustainable, energy efficient future. They provide [support and advice](#) for businesses.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- **The Chambers of Commerce** - [website](#) and [Net Zero Hub](#) signposts businesses to free online resources such as practical guides, tools and real-life insights to help accelerate your net zero journey and improve energy efficiency. Including a Green Savings Calculator and a Net Carbon Business tool.
- **The Carbon Trust** - [Energy Management self-assessment tool](#) helps businesses assess strengths and weaknesses in energy management.
- **Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy** - [Energy Technology List](#) is a procurement tool for energy managers, procurement professionals, facilities managers and others listing energy-efficient plant and machinery such as boilers, lighting, air conditioning and refrigeration equipment.

- **The Carbon Trust** - [Green Business Directory](#) helps businesses to find suppliers and installers of energy efficiency and renewable energy technology, accredited by the Carbon Trust.
- **Cambridge City Council** - provides lots of information and signposting for businesses on various topics including [how to improve your businesses energy efficiency](#)

TRANSPORT

GRANTS AND FUNDING

- [Low emissions vehicle grant](#) – you can get a discount on the price of new low-emission vehicles through a grant the government gives to vehicle dealerships and manufacturers. Maximum grant available for cars is £2500.
- [The Workplace Charging Scheme](#) - is a voucher-based scheme that provides support towards the up-front costs of the purchase and installation of electric vehicle charge points.
- **The Energy Saving Trust** - manages [transport grants and loans](#) for businesses (when available).
- **Grants Online** - a regularly updated list of [energy, environment and transport grants](#)

ADVICE, TRAINING AND LEARNING

- **Smart Journeys** - provide [advice and support to businesses](#) on travel planning and how to implement and promote sustainable and active travel.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- **G Fleet** – offer access to [toolkits, online data sets and support](#) to businesses to develop more sustainable transport options

WASTE

GRANTS AND FUNDING

- **WRAP** sometimes offers [grants and investments](#) supporting business waste and reduction costs.

ADVICE, TRAINING AND LEARNING

- **Cambridge City Council** website contains lots of information and signposting for businesses on various topics including [ways to reduce your business resource use and waste.](#)

SUSTAINABLE FOOD

ADVICE, TRAINING AND LEARNING

- **Cambridge Sustainable Food** – supports and celebrates food businesses on their sustainability journey through their [Sustainable Food Business Award](#), provide a place for businesses to [donate surplus food](#) and offer a host of [services](#) to support organisations become a leader in sustainable food, including sustainable food sourcing, surplus food distribution, assessing and improving the sustainability of your food.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- **The Carbon Trust** - [Cut Costs and Carbon Calculator](#) is a business tool to help manage the energy costs, carbon footprint and environmental impact of your business's catering operations.

SMES

GRANTS AND FUNDING

- **The Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (BEIS)** - sometimes offer loans, grants or subsidised energy-saving businesses to support small businesses with reducing their impact on the environment. The [Finance and support finder](#) directs you to available financial support for businesses.
- **PECT & Eastern New Energy- grant scheme** aims to build a stronger low energy, low carbon economy in the East of England by offering support to SMEs to invest to reduce carbon emissions
- The [Low Carbon Innovation Fund](#) is a co-investment initiative worth over £100m aimed at SMEs operating in the East of England developing or deploying environmentally beneficial technologies
- [Low Carbon Workspaces](#) delivers grant funding to SME's based in Buckinghamshire, Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Hertfordshire, Milton Keynes and Northamptonshire, to help implement energy saving measures and electric vehicles.

ADVICE, TRAINING AND LEARNING

- **Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership** - [Accelerator and Sustainability Hub](#) - Accelerator provides 12-30 hours of free business support to SMEs in England, with particular focus on sustainability. Programmes are advertised [here](#) and typically run 3 times a year on different themes.
- **Allia Future Business Centre** - [Climate Accelerator](#) offers climate-focused start-ups six months of intensive workshops, coaching and support to develop their business and accelerate the transition to a zero carbon, climate resilient world.

TOOLS AND RESOURCES

- **Cambridge City Council** - provides lots of information and signposting for businesses on various topics including [adapting your business to climate change](#)
- **Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership** – a workplace exclusively for SMEs with sustainability as a core focus will be opening on Regent Street in Cambridge in late Spring 2022.
- **The Carbon Trust** - [Energy Saving tool](#) provides a step-by-step process for SMEs to start measuring, managing and reducing carbon emissions and energy costs.
- **The Carbon Trust** - [Fleet upgrade tool](#) helps businesses identify vehicle upgrade options and estimate cost-savings.
- **The Carbon Trust** - [Lighting business case tool](#) helps small and medium sized businesses calculate the business case for lighting upgrades.
- **SME Climate Hub** - partnered with Oxford University to develop a [database of practical tools and resources](#) to support small businesses in reducing carbon emissions.
- **Cambridge Sustainable Food** - [Food Hub](#) will link up local producers with local caterers and increase the accessibility of locally produced, sustainable food farms in the Cambridgeshire area.