



# Climate Springboard

In partnership with the Royal Bank of Scotland, the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute is bringing you a unique programme free of charge.

Climate Springboard is a support programme for Royal Bank of Scotland customers to take action to succeed in a net zero economy and become leaders in the zero carbon transition. It will enable SMEs to respond to the climate emergency and realise the business opportunities provided by the net-zero transition.

The programme comprises participative learning workshops where like-minded businesses can learn and share experiences and solutions. It is designed to give SMEs the knowledge, tools and confidence to take meaningful action. Businesses will learn from experts in the net zero economy, share experiences and learn from each other.

## Why is the programme relevant to me?

The Net Zero plan is resulting in significant effects on how businesses operate. For example:

- Regulatory changes: The sale of petrol and diesel cars and vans being banned from 2035.
- Targets from customers: Many large businesses are legally required to disclose their carbon footprint. Consequently, they are setting targets for their suppliers. For example, by 2027, all NHS England suppliers must publish a carbon reduction plan aligned with the NHS target.

Being aware and preparing for these changes will help businesses transition. In addition, a significant part of carbon reduction is using resources more efficiently.

Climate Springboard is a practical course that supports these areas, ensuring businesses are ready for the transition.

## What will I leave the programme with?

- An understanding of the regulatory and market change occurring because of net zero.
- Knowledge of what business activities generate carbon emissions.
- Awareness of how carbon footprint is calculated.
- An action plan with practical steps on how to reduce emissions.
- A carbon reduction plan articulating the above messages to internal and external stakeholders.

## What does the programme consist of?

- A series of three online, two-hour workshops for groups of approx. 15 businesses with similar ambitions and challenges.
- Exercises to help put the learning of the programme into action.
- Businesses can also gain access to one-to-one advice and support to help them prepare their own climate action plans.

## What's in it for you?

We think this could add real value to businesses that:

- Want to learn what they could do to act
- Are ready to respond but not sure what to do next
- Need support to identify priorities and take action
- Want to learn from others with similar ambitions and challenges

The programme is aimed at those who want to improve their business as part of their response to climate change and can drive transformation within their organisation. Companies can put forward more than one participant to help develop knowledge and deliver climate action within the business.



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## Eligibility Criteria

- Scotland-based businesses
- Royal Bank of Scotland customer
- SME with a turnover of up to £25m

## Programme Commitments

- Attendance at all three workshops
- Interactive workshop requires active participation
- “Homework” to be completed between workshops

## How do I apply?

To find out more or to receive a copy of the application form, email [climatespringboard@rbs.com](mailto:climatespringboard@rbs.com)

## Time Commitment

The programme consists of three, two hour workshops delivered online.

	Timings	Workshop 1	Workshop 2	Workshop 3
Cohort 6	09:30 – 11:30	3 May	17 May	31 May
Cohort 7	14:00 – 16:00	9 May	23 May	6 June

## Who has attended before?

Just under 50 businesses have benefited from this training. They include charities, hotels, laundrettes, schools, lawyers and manufacturers. With turnovers ranging from £2m to nearly £25m, and everything between 5 to 250 employees. Each has found the course helpful and has subsequently taken action.

Only 7% had a designated sustainability person; others sent the Head of Marketing, Operations, Finance Director, CEO etc.

This course is designed for businesses who want to learn more about their emissions and to start reducing them – you don’t need to be a climate expert to join! Resources on climate change basics and the Net Zero transition will also be provided for those who need them.



**Foodmek** is a food processing machinery that designs, manufactures and installs based in Fife. The course helped them understand how they could cut their heating emissions and bills. This included providing training to staff around insulation and using heating controls effectively. They chose to have training on both reducing heating bills in the office and at home to help employees with rising energy bills. They also installed technology to increase air circulation in the building, reducing the heat needed.



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90% of attendees would recommend the course to another business.

100% felt it achieved their learning outcomes.

All businesses took at least one action to reduce their carbon footprint.

## Actions alumni have taken

- The techniques in the course help “fast-track straight to action”. This enables businesses to focus on areas where small changes will have the most significant impact.
- For one company this meant concentration on vehicle use, they managed to cut petrol bills by training drivers to increase fuel efficiency. For another, electricity was a significant component of their emissions (and bills).
- The course taught them how to monitor their consumption and spot patterns, enabling them to take action to reduce unnecessary emissions. For them, publishing the figures daily encouraged staff to join in energy-saving measures.
- For a manufacturing firm, it was realising they were using a significant amount of energy overnight, despite no production. For a fortnight, they turned off a different machine each night until they identified they identified the one machine which consumed most of the energy. Now that machine is turned off each night.
- This course focuses on the small steps businesses can take to quickly reduce their costs and emissions, starting with the most impactful options.

## What was the most useful part of the workshop?

“Being formally introduced to all the components of the carbon reduction and seeing how it's likely to impact business in the future”

“The homework, this will form the basis of my presentation to the directors with regards to tackling carbon footprint reduction going forward”

“Practical guidance and hearing the experiences of others”

“Learning how to split the process and analyse chunks that have an impact”