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**Sustainability reporting has arrived!**

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# Sustainability reporting has arrived!

In the latest edition of the [London Chamber of Commerce's](#) publication, *London Business Matters Magazine*, **Fadi Geha** talks about how company directors across the world continue to respond to the rapidly growing investor and stakeholder demand for high quality, comparable disclosure of the

With this increased disclosure and reporting requirement, there has never been a more urgent need for a globally consistent reporting framework which allows companies to benchmark their own sustainability practices and look for areas of improvement.

In March 2022, the International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) launched a global consultation on their drafts for General Requirements for Disclosure of Sustainability-related Financial Information (Sustainability Standard) and Climate-related Disclosures (Climate Standard).

The finalised ISSB standards (expected in 2023) will require disclosure of climate and sustainability governance, strategy, risk management and performance, including greenhouse gas emissions, covering four areas:

- **Governance** – the governance processes, controls and procedures a company uses to monitor and manage their sustainability and climate-related risks / opportunities;
- **Strategy** – the approach for addressing sustainability and climate-related risks and opportunities that could affect a

company's business model and strategy over the short, medium and long term;

- **Risk management** – the processes a company uses to identify, assess and manage sustainability and climate-related risks; and
- **Metrics and targets** – information used to assess, manage and monitor a company's performance in relation to sustainability and climate-related risks/ opportunities over time.

While the ISSB standards have the potential to achieve a high level of consolidation of reporting frameworks, where does that leave UK businesses today?

## SECR

The SECR program was first introduced in the UK in April 2019, requiring obligated companies to report on their energy consumption and associated GHG emissions within their financial reporting for Companies House. They also need to report on energy efficiency measures and provide emissions with reference to an intensity metric.

SECR now applies to all quoted companies, as well as large, limited liability partnerships and large UK incorporated yet unquoted companies. In addition, limited liability partnerships and UK incorporated quoted companies must report if they meet two or

- more of the following criteria:
- 250 employees or more
- Turnover greater than £36M
- Balance sheet greater than £18M

Organisations of all sizes have always been encouraged to report on a voluntary basis.

## TCFD

On the 6th of April 2022 the UK Government mandated that large companies disclose information in alignment with the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-Related Financial Disclosure (TCFD):

The required disclosures cover the 4 key pillars referred to above under the ISSB standards.

Whilst the new legislation applies to large corporations, the UK Government has since announced that the TCFD mandatory criteria will be extended to smaller companies in 2023. As such, SMEs need to be prepared, as their sustainability reporting methodologies will come under much greater scrutiny than they may be familiar with.

Thankfully, in addition to the detailed guidelines, there now exist many great examples of robust ESG reporting platforms for businesses wanting to start their net zero journey.

## CarbonView – Sustainability Reporting Platform

Simple's CarbonView platform provides companies with the ability to easily translate their business activities into carbon emissions, without requiring any specialist consulting knowledge on sustainability or carbon reporting. By providing

some basic data about their operations, any business can quantify and understand their current carbon footprint (and thus set a target to net zero) with clean, easy to understand dashboards and reports.

CarbonView is an incredibly powerful platform that can account for around 20,000 different emissions sources but is also suited for the smallest of businesses who are just starting their net zero journey. It caters for obvious sources of emissions (such as electricity & gas usage), as well as to slightly more obscure sources that one may not have considered (digital marketing services, accounting services, or business travel, for example).

Companies are guided every step of the way. From capturing data, to identifying problem areas in their business, to setting emissions targets and creating reduction strategies to meet those targets. CarbonView performs all the heavy lifting when it comes to carbon accounting.

The impact that each action a company takes on its journey is used to forecast their emissions in the future. This is then compared to the total reduction in emissions needed to meet their overall net zero target. If carbon offsets are part of the company's strategy to reach net zero, then these can be

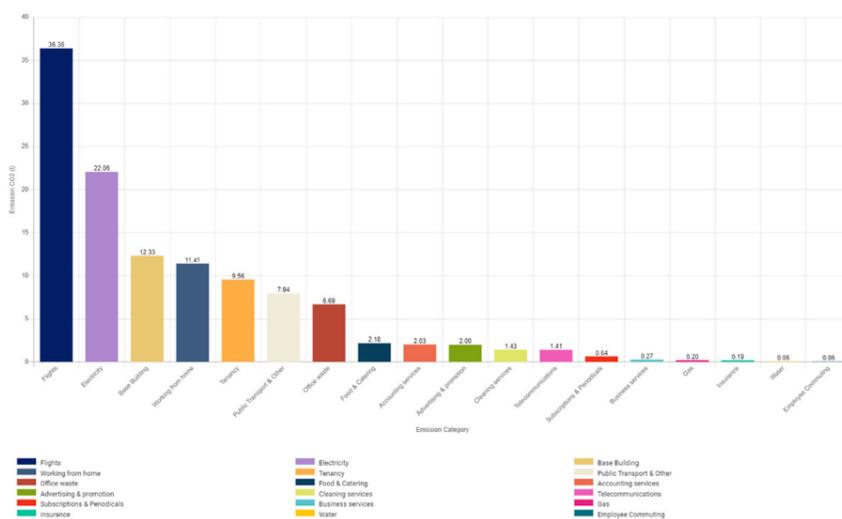


accounted for within CarbonView.

CarbonView's reliance on quantitative data ensures that sustainability strategies are based on evidence and factual metrics data.

The inclusion of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in CarbonView allows for other components of ESG reporting to be included in the same platform.

In conclusion, there is no reason why all organisations including SMEs couldn't prepare themselves for mandated reporting by starting now. It's a journey we should all embark on regardless of the size or location of our business!



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# Manage your path to **net zero**

Carbon and sustainability  
management made easy



CarbonView enables organisations to measure their emissions, understand the source of those emissions and minimise them through smart carbon reporting. Whatever size your business is, CarbonView can help you on your journey to hitting zero emissions.



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