

What can I do to help at work?

Regardless of the industry you work in, business operations cause a big impact on climate change. In order to make a difference, everyone needs to work together. You can help by educating people at work or simply by inspiring and encouraging your colleagues to take the same steps as you.

- The best concrete actions will depend very much on the type of work you do. Think with your colleagues about how you can cut emissions. Areas you could look at are commuting, travelling for work, waste management and recycling, heating, energy, machine use and maintenance and computer systems.
- Sign up for a scheme like Business Declares which helps with Net Zero plans and suggestions of where to cut emissions.
- [Divest your pension fund from fossil fuels](#). Write to your pension fund, asking if the money can be moved away from coal, oil and gas companies. If we do not demand fossil-fuel-free pensions, nothing will change. If your employer allows, move your savings out of fossil fuels and self-invest into a personal pension. It is estimated that divesting your pension has an impact equivalent to reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 20 tons. Pension funds control large amounts of money so this type of action could make a massive difference.
- Use your professional experience: Is there a pressure group you could join? Are there petitions and government consultations you could respond to, either as a professional or as a citizen?
- Push for schemes that are free for your employer like a cycle-to-work or a salary-sacrifice scheme to lease an electric car.
- Are there options to increase biodiversity on the premises?
- Talk to colleagues and inspire and encourage them to take the same steps as you.

Offices:

- Look at ways to save energy and heat, such as using LEDs and task lighting. Make sure the light is off when the last person leaves and equipment is switched off.
- Can you reduce, reuse and recycle?

Retail/Entertainment:

- How can you save energy? Could your shop close the doors? It can save up to 50% of energy. Is there an option for LED lighting? Could you turn down the thermostat by one degree?
- Can you switch off lights in windows at night?
- What do you do with leftover food? Can you donate it?
- What happens to food waste? Does it get recycled?

I am an employer:

- Can you offer free-to-run schemes such as cycle-to-work or a salary-sacrifice scheme for electric cars?
- How do you manage business travel?
- Do you have a Net-Zero plan in place?

- Do you have options to increase biodiversity, plant trees or hedges?