

Environment & Emergency Committee

To: Committee Members

Cllrs Pitt (Chairperson), Banks, Bolanz, Dunford, Goodman, Simonis, and S Smith

Copies: County Councillors – S Ferguson, K Prentice, S Taylor & G Seeff

District Councillors – L Davenport-Ray, S Ferguson, A Jennings, M Pickering, I Taylor, S Taylor & G Welton

Town Councillors (not a member of this committee)

Local Press, Town Council website

Agenda for the meeting of the **Environment & Emergency committee** to be held on **Tuesday 4th March 2025 at 7.15pm** in the Eatons Centre, 18 The Maltings, St Neots, PE19 8ES.

Please be aware that meetings may be recorded and made available to the public. Your participation in the meeting indicates your consent to being included in these recordings.

Public Participation

There will be a 10-minute session before the meeting to allow any resident to address the committee on any matter appearing on the agenda for this meeting.

Members of the Environment & Emergency committee are hereby summoned to attend this meeting to consider the following business.

C Robson
Town Clerk

1. Apologies for absence

To receive Councillors apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of interest

To receive from Councillor's declarations as to Disclosable Pecuniary Interests and/or Non-Statutory Disclosable Interests along with the nature of those interests in relation to any agenda item.

3. Minutes

To approve the minutes of the Environment and Emergency Committee meeting held on 14th January 2025 as a true and accurate record. Attachment 1

4. Action List

To receive and note the committee action list. Attachment 2

5. Priory Centre Supply Chain Auditing

To receive and consider a recommendation on using a supply chain sustainability auditor to review the Priory Centre's produce chain. Attachment 3

6. Climate Action Plan Ongoing Work Timeframe

To receive and consider a report with suggested timescales for completing actions from the Climate Action Plan.

Attachment 4

7. Biodiversity for All Project

To receive an update on the Biodiversity for All project following the recent completion of the first stage of works.

Attachment 5

8. Date of next meeting

To note that the date of the next Committee meeting will be agreed at a meeting of the Full Council to be held on 25th March 2025 as part of agreeing the 2025-26 meeting schedule.



Environment & Emergency Committee

Present: Committee Members

Cllrs Bolanz (elected Chairperson), Banks, Dunford, Goodman, Pitt, Simonis and S Smith

In Attendance: Town Clerk, Environmental Project Officer

Absent: Cllrs

Minutes of the meeting of the **Environment & Emergency committee** held on **14th January 2025** at **6.15pm** in the Eaton's Centre, 18 The Maltings, St Neots, PE19 8ES.

Public Participation

There were no members of the public present. No member of the public wished to address the Council.

080 Apologies for Absence
No apologies received.

ACTIONS

081 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.

082 Minutes
RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Environment and Emergency Committee meeting held on 12th November 2024 as a true and accurate record.

083 Action List
Members received and noted the action list for the committee.

The Environmental Project Officer provided an update on the biodiversity work to be undertaken at St Neots old cemetery as part of grant funding received from Huntingdonshire District Council. The diocese has confirmed that permission for planting of trees is not needed and as such works will start in March within this financial year.

084 Energise Reports Summary
Members received and considered a report summarising key information from the recent energy audits of Council buildings as completed by Energise. Members also received and considered recommendations on actions arising from the reports that should be prioritised as part of achieving the Council's Climate Action Plan.

A Member questioned the methodology behind the percentage progressions under the 'pathway' category. The Environmental Project Officer has queried this with the contractor to get a clear understanding of what the pathway percentage shows and what it is measured against.

It was clarified that figures against recommendations in the reports were indicative figures and not quotes. The Council will need to agree its priority actions and get quotes for those it wishes to progress. It was noted that some buildings will only reach net-zero with an allowance for offsetting.

A Member commented that all recommendations need to be considered in the context of cost benefit and where our resources are most effective.

A question was raised as to why insulation hasn't come up as a recommendation. The Environmental Project Officer was asked to get feedback from the company. It was highlighted that the temporary Council offices lost most heat through the floor, which would be hard to insulate. Members debated whether insulation of the temporary Council office floor should be explored and agreed that feasibility should be investigated by the Environmental Project Officer and Project Delivery Manager.

RESOLVED that the Project Delivery Manager and Environmental Project Officer undertake and report back to the committee on an initial review and feasibility on options to improve insulation of the Town Council temporary office building located at the Steve Van de Kerkhove Community Centre.

Members discussed the installation of solar panels on buildings as recommended by the building surveys. As part of this discussion Members debated how buildings with tenants, particularly a commercial tenant should be approached. The Environmental Project Officer was asked to get quotations for PV with and without battery storage. Battery storage would directly benefit the occupant and it was suggested that the occupant should then be asked to fund the cost of the battery if solar PV was installed and the battery option was wanted.

Following a detailed review of the recommendations arising from the energy audits the committee made the following recommendations;

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to the Operations and Amenities Committee that the Council progresses with the recommended carbon net-zero improvements for Council buildings identified as 'quick wins'. That funding for implementing recommendations be considered for allocation from the Council's earmarked reserve for Community Buildings.

RESOLVED that the Environmental Project Officer proceeds to get quotes for solar panels with optional batteries for Gate Lodge and the Museum and **RECOMMENDS** these quotes and the installation of solar panels on both buildings to the Operations Committee unless there are concerns with the quotes that require further consideration by the Environment and Emergency Committee.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that if solar panels are installed on the Gate Lodge and Museum the occupants of these buildings will be asked to pay for battery installation if this option is wanted.



RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that if solar panels are installed on Gate Lodge this is conditional on reagreeing the lease for the building.

RESOLVED that the Environmental Project Officer obtains quotes for replacing electric heaters with Air-conditioning at the Steve van De Kerkhove Community Centre and Gate lodge and to **RECOMMEND** the replacement and quotations to the Operations and Amenities Committee.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND that if electric heaters are replaced with air-conditioning units at Gate Lodge this is conditional and reagreeing the lease.

RESOLVED to defer further consideration or recommendations relating to the Ex-Serviceman Club building to a future meeting following further review.

085 Eatons Centre Biomass Boiler

Members received and considered a recommendation on investigating replacing the biomass boiler at the Eatons Centre with an Air Source Heat Pump or alternative heating solution. The energy audit of the building made a recommendation on replacing the bio-mass boiler and Members noted the costs incurred by the council in fixing the boiler, which were significant over the last five years. Members also noted the difficulties the unreliable boiler created for the General Manager in the operation of the building.

Members expressed support for the recommendation and referred to the expense of running the bio-mass boiler and the air pollution it creates. It was noted that gas was not an option without creating a new gas supply for the building and that an initial quote had been received for electric boilers. While initial costs would be less for an electric boiler long-term running costs would be more. Members asked that any report and recommendation refer to these alternatives as well as a heat pump.

Members noted that a heat pump would require planning permission.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to the Operations and Amenities Committee that the Council progresses transitioning the Eatons Community Centre heating to an air source heat pump and that further details and quotations are taken to the Finance and Governance Committee for further consideration. That reporting includes feedback or options around any alternative heating solution, such as electric.

086 Transition of Operational vehicles to EV

Members received a recommendation on replacing two operational vehicles and a ride-on lawn mower with plug-in hybrid or electric alternatives. The Environmental Project Officer advised the committee that a previous resolution recommending transitioning to electric vehicles did not fully account for the needs of the operation team, suitability of vehicles and the greater fuel usage of lawn mowers. Particularly, the electric vehicles on the market don't provide towing



capabilities required. As such, officers are recommending a new approach on transitioning two vehicles to hybrid vehicles, continuing to run the Ford Transit until a suitable alternative is on the market and investing in one electric ride-on lawn mower.

Members agreed that transitioning to hybrid alternatives was a positive and more cost-effective progression towards net-zero based on the low mileage of the vehicles and high fuel usage of the lawn mowers. Due to the low daily mileage of operational vehicles plug-in hybrids would allow the vehicles to run in electric mode most of the time. Lawn mowers usage of diesel is a significant carbon output by the Council and focusing on a move to electric lawn mowers will make a bigger impact on the Council carbon output and reducing pollutants in our green spaces.

Members discussed concerns around battery life for the mower and ways of helping to manage risks associated with this. Members acknowledged that purchasing one electric mower was a sensible approach to testing the equipment, its longer-term efficiency and usability before replacing more of the council's lawn mowers.

RESOLVED to RECOMMEND to the Operations and Amenities Committee that;

- That the Council replaces the 2010 Ford Ranger with a plug-in hybrid box-van style alternative (preferably second-hand) which meets the requirements of the Operations team in terms of size, capacity, security, and towing functionality.
- That the Council replaces the 2013 Nissan Navara with a plug-in hybrid box-van style alternative (preferably second-hand) which meets the requirements of the Operations team in terms of size, capacity, security, and towing functionality.
- That the Council replaces one ride-on diesel lawn mower with a new electric ride-on lawnmower (minimum 74" deck).
- That the Council purchase and install two charges for vehicles (EVs and Plug-ins, 7.2kW)
- That the Council purchase special charger for lawn mower batteries.
- That the Council allocate up to £115,000.00 in funding for the proposed vehicle replacement.

087 Date of Next Committee Meeting

Members noted that the date of the next committee meeting would be 4th March 2025 at 7:15pm.

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON

ST NEOTS TOWN COUNCIL – ENVIRONMENT AND EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

ACTION LIST 2024/25

The following Action List summarises outstanding resolutions and activities that are ongoing from the last Council and will continue to be worked on over the year.

ENVIRONMENT AND EMERGENCY COMMITTEE				
Project	Objective	Status	Responsibility	Timescales
2024/25 Activities				
COMMUNITY EMERGENCY PLAN				
Community Emergency Plan for St Neots	To continue to develop and bring forward a completed, comprehensive Community Emergency Plan document for consideration by the Committee.	<p>Environmental Project Officer has reviewed current document and contacted relevant external partners to gather information required to complete the plan.</p> <p>Responses have been incorporated into the document and it is now being brought back to the committee for adoption.</p> <p>Adopted by Full Council on 26th November 2024.</p> <p>Request by member of the public to amend the plan regarding flooding brought to Full Council meeting on 17th December 2024.</p> <p>Met with FLAG representative – they will email across the amendments they would like us to make in respect of FLAG's responsibilities.</p>	1) Env. Officer	To review flood element of plan with FLAG representative – completed and awaiting updates on FLAG role
CARBON NEUTRAL PROJECTS				
Transitioning Operational fleet to electric	To transition the Operational fleet away from fossil fuels	Environmental Project Officer and Project Manager have reviewed the fleet to establish what vehicles are currently in operational use.	1) Env. Officer 2) Project Manager 3) Operations	In progress – final specification checks being completed with

AGENDA ITEM 4**ATTACHMENT 2**

	towards a fully electric fleet	<p>The E&E Committee recommended that all Operational vehicles be transitioned to electric by 2030. Recommended that the oldest diesel vans and a mower be replaced first, within the next 12-18 months. At this stage, plug-in hybrid vans are the only suitable vans on the market, so agreed to purchase these now and look for full EV at the next replacement cycle.</p> <p>Officers have been working with the Operations team to establish the most appropriate alternative vehicles to suit their requirements.</p>	Manager	a view to purchasing two vans and a lawnmower.
Solar Panels on Cemetery Gate Lodge	To obtain quotes and work with the tenant of Gate Lodge to bring forward a proposal on the installation of solar panels on the building, as requested by the tenant.	<p>The E&E committee previously expressed support for a proposal from the tenants of Gate Lodge (Council owned building) to look at a scheme to install solar panels on the building.</p> <p>Quotations were taken to the Operations and Amenities Committee for consideration. The Committee has referred the matter back to the Environment Committee asking for further clarity on a wider approach to solar panels across the Council's estate.</p> <p>The E&E Committee recommended that this action now be considered as part of a wider review of the Council's Net Zero ambitions in relation to its buildings.</p> <p>The E&E Committee requested that quotes be obtained for this work, with a separate quote for an associated battery which would be paid for by the tenant. Quotes will be taken to the Operations & Amenities Committee.</p>	1) Env. Officer	Quotes currently being obtained to take to future Ops Committee

AGENDA ITEM 4**ATTACHMENT 2**

Solar panels on Museum	To obtain quotes and work with the museum to bring forward a proposal on the installation of solar panels on the building, as recommended in the energy audits	Following the energy audits, solar PV panels were recommended for installation at the museum. The E&E Committee requested that quotes be obtained for this work, with a separate quote for an associated battery which would be paid for by the museum. Quotes will be taken to the Operations & Amenities Committee.	1) Env. Officer	Quotes currently being obtained to take to future Ops Committee
Heat Pump at the Eatons Centre	To obtain quotes to bring forward a proposal on the installation of an ASHP at the building, as recommended in the energy audits	Following the energy audits, an ASHP was recommended for installation at the Eatons Centre. The E&E Committee requested that quotes be obtained for this work, to be taken to the Operations & Amenities Committee.	1) Env. Officer	Quotes currently being obtained to take to future Ops Committee
Upgraded heating system at Gate Lodge	To obtain quotes to bring forward a proposal on the installation of an upgraded heating system at the building, as recommended in the energy audits	Following the energy audits, an upgraded heating system (AC air-to-air heating) was recommended for installation at Gate Lodge. The E&E Committee requested that quotes be obtained for this work, to be taken to the Operations & Amenities Committee.	1) Env. Officer	Quotes currently being obtained to take to future Ops Committee
Upgraded heating system at Steve Van De Kerkhove building A (Man Cave)	To obtain quotes to bring forward a proposal on the installation of an upgraded heating system at the building, as recommended in the energy audits	Following the energy audits, an upgraded heating system (AC air-to-air heating) was recommended for installation at the Steve Van De Kerkhove building A (Man Cave). The E&E Committee requested that quotes be obtained for this work, to be taken to the Operations & Amenities Committee.	1) Env. Officer	Quotes currently being obtained to take to future Ops Committee

AGENDA ITEM 4**ATTACHMENT 2**

Quick Wins	To obtain quotes to bring forward a proposal on 'quick win' energy improvements at Council owned and operated buildings	Following the energy audits a series of 'quick win' energy improvements were identified for the buildings we own/use. The E&E Committee recommended that these 'quick win' improvements be completed using funds of up to £5,300 from earmarked reserves for Community Buildings over the next 6-12 months.	1) Env. Officer	Not started
BIODIVERSITY - NATURAL FLOOD MANAGEMENT				
HDC Biodiversity Audit and Grant	Reviewing the results of HDC's audit and bringing forward opportunities / ideas that may arise from the audit	<p>Biodiversity Audit has been completed by HDC. Awaiting publication of resulting report. To review and see whether it provides opportunities for SNTC and the committee.</p> <p>Grant award confirmed and HDC will undertake works. Awaiting funding from HDC.</p> <p>HDC will provide timescales for works which will be reported to the committee. Works will most likely need to be undertaken in autumn.</p> <p>First phase completed on 18th February (hedgerow and understory planting). Second phase to be completed in March 2025, and final phase to be completed autumn 2025.</p>	1) Env. Officer	See Agenda item 7
CLIMATE ACTION				
Climate Action Plan for St Neots Town Council	To continue to develop a climate action plan, with achievable and measurable actions for adoption and implementation by the Council.	<p>An initial draft plan was brought forward by the Chairperson for consideration. The newly appointed Environmental Project Officer will be developing the process and the plan itself in partnership with the Committee. The development of the Plan forms a key part of the role.</p> <p>The Committee is asked to consider recommending the plan for formal adoption.</p>	1) E&E Env. Officer	COMPLETED

		The Climate Action Plan has now been formally adopted by Full Council.		
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ST NEOTS TOWN COUNCIL

Committee	ENVIRONMENT AND EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Date:	4th MARCH 2025
Title:	PRIORY CENTRE SUPPLY CHAIN AUDITING
Contact Officer:	ENVIROMENTAL PROJECT OFFICER

1. Purpose of the Report

To receive and consider a recommendation on using a supply chain sustainability auditor to review the Priory Centre's produce chain.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee agrees to allocate funding from the Carbon Neutral budget to pay for a sustainability audit of the Priory Centre's supply chain and associated recommendations for more sustainable purchasing.
- 2.2 That the Committee agrees to progress with engaging the company quoted on a 12-month contract at a total cost of £2,388

3. Background

- 3.1 As part of the Climate Action Plan, a Carbon baseline of Council buildings and functions was calculated, with the Priory Centre's produce contributing the single biggest portion at 58.11tCO₂e (65%).
- 3.2 Whilst this calculation was at a basic level (i.e., it didn't distinguish between type/source of produce), it highlights the importance of understanding the sustainability of produce at a deeper level, and the need to ensure the Priory Centre is sourcing the most sustainable produce available to reduce this Carbon impact. 1.8.2 of the Climate Action Plan requires that the Priory Centre reduces the sale of the most environmentally harmful produce to support the Council's journey towards its Carbon Net Zero goals.

4. Information

- 4.1 Tried & Supplied have been identified as a company able to complete a deep-dive sustainability review of the Priory Centre's produce at the full supply chain level. They specialise in the hospitality industry and are able to liaise extensively with suppliers to collate the information that we require to make informed decisions on our purchasing. Tried & Supplied can extend this

review to include additional elements of concern that we may wish to address, such as animal welfare, slavery, biodiversity, societal impacts, etc.

- 4.2 In addition to establishing the sustainability impact of our current produce, Tried & Supplied are able to work with us, and suppliers, to improve our purchasing, either by supporting suppliers to source more sustainable products, or by supporting us to transition to an alternative supplier who better meets our needs and values.
- 4.3 Tried & Supplied can also support the development of more sustainable menus and alternative produce options meaning the Priory Centre can remove the most Carbon heavy options from sale.
- 4.4 In addition to providing bespoke auditing and supply chain support, Tried & Supplied provide a data platform for us to have live visibility of our produce and supply chain impacts and the potential improvements through their suggested changes, making it easy for us to monitor our progress and see where we still need to focus our efforts.
- 4.5 Tried & Supplied are being recommended due to being the only identified company at this stage that is able to provide this type of deep-dive review and full supply chain engagement for the hospitality industry. Their Overview pack is included as **APPENDIX A**.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 Initially there is a requirement to commit to a 12-month contract, which can then be rolled forward on a month-to-month basis as required. The cost for this is £199 per month, with an optional 25p per additional product uplift if we require an audit on more than 500 products. In line with Financial Regulations 5.9 Officers are content that this cost offers best value for the services required.

6. Legal Powers

- 6.1 The action undertaken is covered by the Localism Act 2011, s.1 the General Power of Competence, for which St Neots Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort allowing the Council to do anything an individual can do.

APPENDIX A

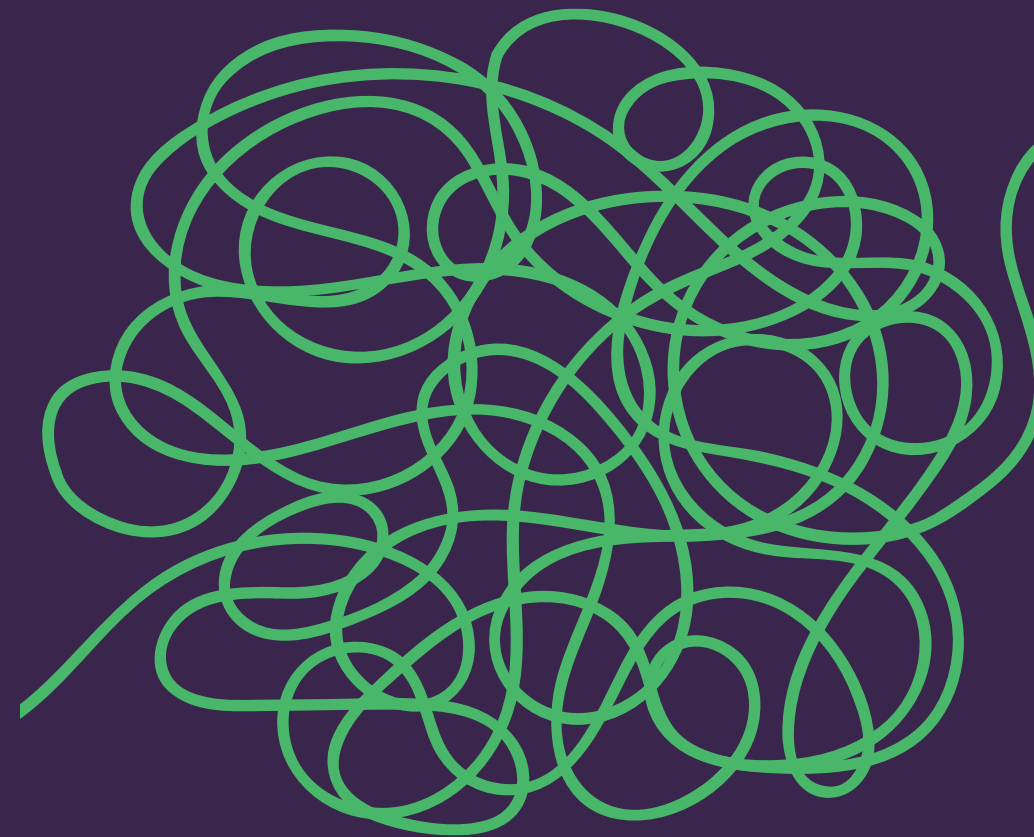
✓ tried & supplied

Your all-in-one data platform
for supply chain sustainability



Tried & Supplied is founded on decades of experience creating winning data strategies for enterprise clients.

Large volumes of unstructured data **IN**



ESG insights and strategy
OUT

✓ tried & supplied

Who we are

Tried & Supplied's team are experts in both sustainability and data science.

Our live product-level ESG supplier database connects with your existing procurement systems to make sustainable supply chains easy for businesses of all sizes.

We can cover all product categories, but have particular expertise in food & beverage, often the most complex category for hospitality.

We can help define your strategy and empower your teams with a real-time data solution to drive progress on supply chain ESG targets.

TRUSTED BY RESPECTED BRANDS

NOBU HOTELS **nec group**



SUPPORTING SUPPLIERS OF ALL TYPES AND SIZES



HELPING CUSTOMERS ACHIEVE



Struggling to assess the ESG impact of your purchases? It's easy for us to extract this insight from your procurement data.

You give us your procurement data

You can either share this with us via CSV or give us access to your procurement system. 12 months data is best to incorporate seasonal variation.



01

We give you ESG insights

We consolidate and analyze your purchases, enriching your data with ESG insights such as local sourcing, product risk profiles, and emissions drivers. At the end we produce a strategic supplier engagement roadmap to prioritize quick wins and material impact.

02



You set your ESG goals

You use these insights and strategic roadmap to determine your ESG goals. We can help with stakeholder alignment and setting realistic targets, but you choose the direction.



03

We engage your suppliers and provide real-time reports

Based on your ESG goals and specific compliance requirements we start engaging your suppliers, further enriching your ESG dashboard. These dashboards reflect any changes you make to your purchases real-time and will stay updated with any supplier or product improvements.

04



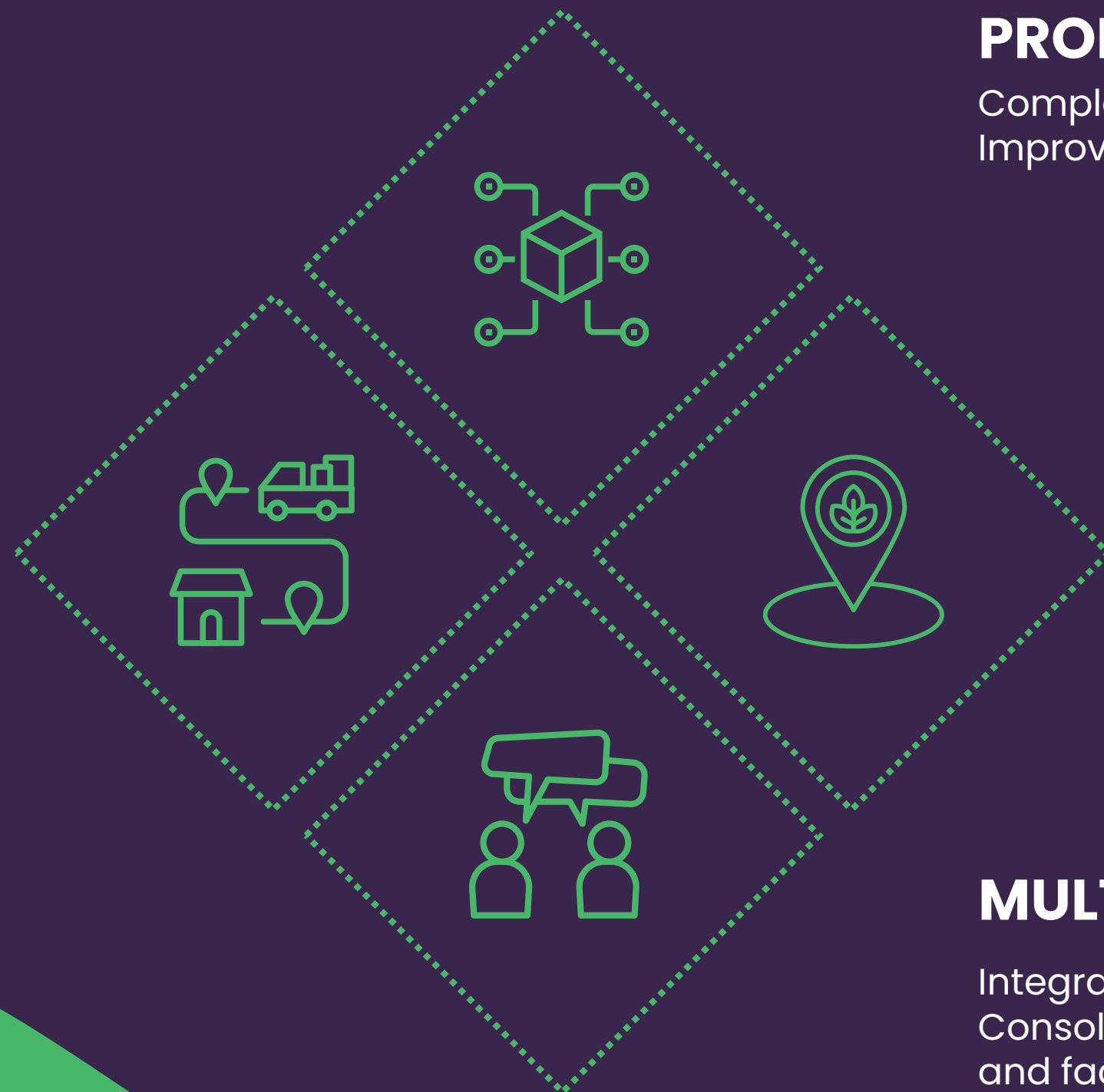
05



You share your progress with stakeholders

As a result of having clearer ESG insights and real-time purchase impact reports, you can start driving meaningful progress and confidently share your results with stakeholders.

Our focus and expertise



PRODUCT-LEVEL ESG INSIGHTS

Complete ESG reporting and compliance that reflects purchase decisions real-time
Improve product-level ESG and material impact without changing suppliers

SUPPLIER ENGAGEMENT

Streamlining supplier engagement, ESG training, compliance and onboarding
Engagement days to agree realistic and shared ESG targets

SUPPLIER ESG SCORING & MAPPING

Big picture visibility of what your supply chain impact looks like
Multi-tier analysis of supply chain risks and resilience

MULTI-SITE, MULTI-SYSTEM CONSOLIDATION

Integrate ESG data with purchase data from any system
Consolidate multi-site data to ensure group-wide compliance
and facilitate internal benchmarking

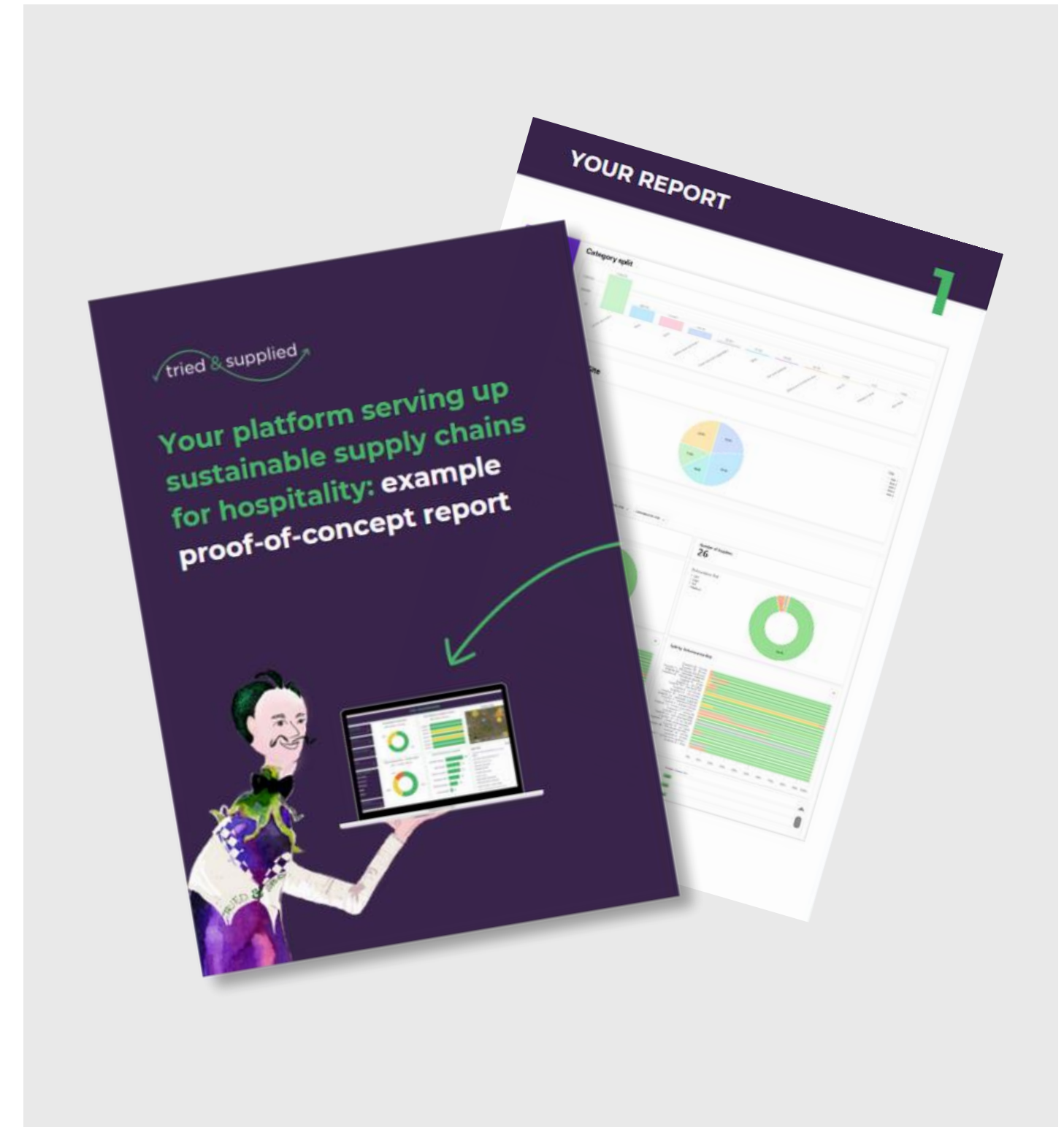
✓ tried & supplied

Start with a Proof of our Capabilities

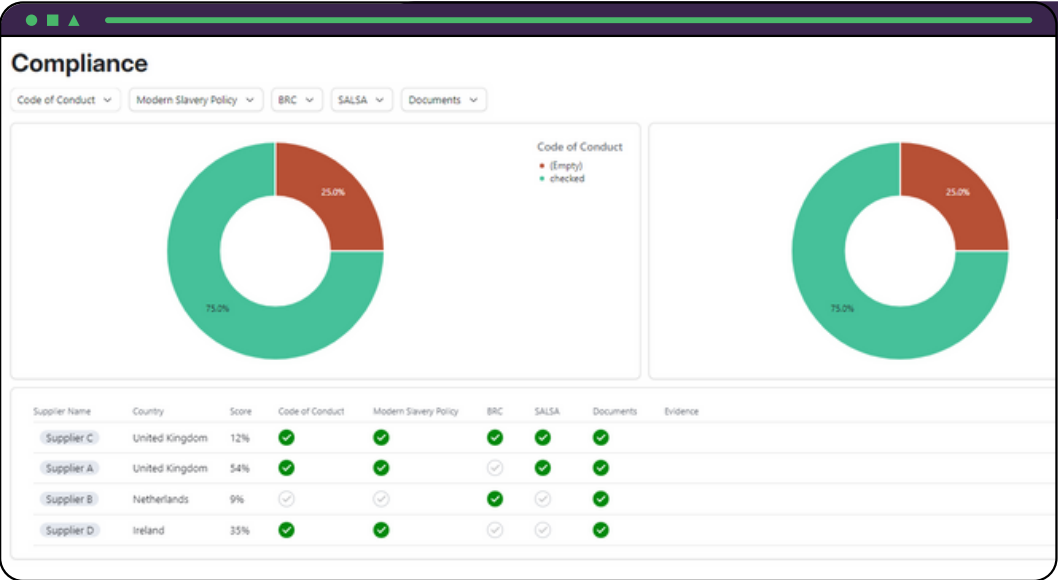
Share your purchase data with us and get your baseline ESG insights report as a proof of our capabilities. Insights include:

- **Any areas of non-compliance** e.g. products likely to fall within scope of upcoming legislation or sites ordering from suppliers against your policies
- **Opportunities for cost efficiencies** through product inventory consolidation or highlighting areas of potential wastage
- **Product ESG risk profiles** and how to reduce the risks covering key ethical issues such as deforestation, modern slavery and water shortages
- **Quick wins for driving positive ESG impact** by focusing on specific products without having to change suppliers
- **Datapoints to enhance your brand reputation** through clearly communicating your strong ethical values and decision-making

We'll also suggest a well-prioritized strategic supplier engagement roadmap and a set of platform packages tailored to your supply chain to optimize your budget for our ongoing software.

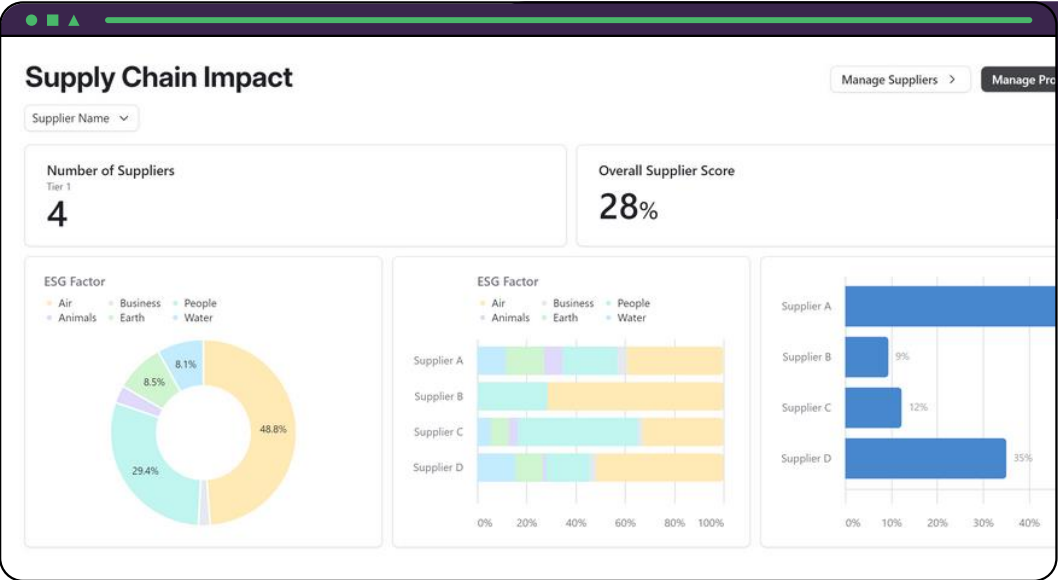
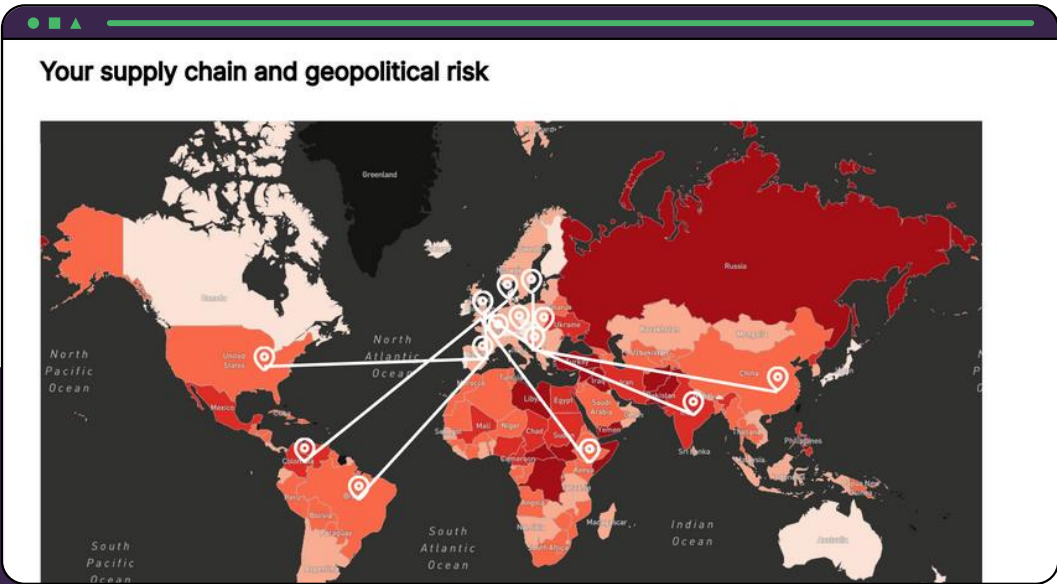


We help visualize complex global supply chains: identifying risks and communicating overall ESG impact.



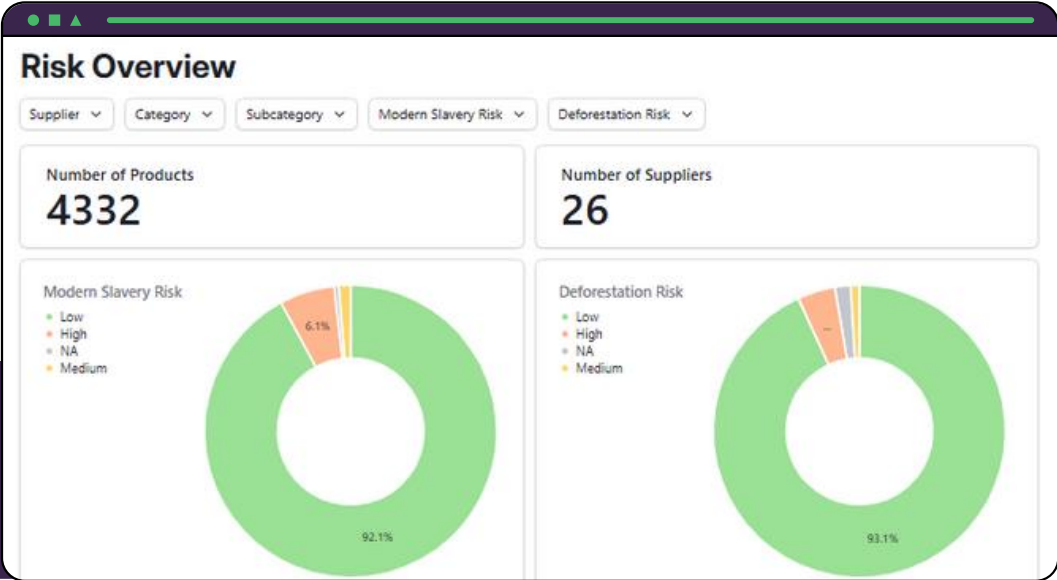
Compliance overview and alerts

Multi-tier supply chain mapping in the context of geopolitical and climate risk



Supplier and product ESG scoring to summarise results

Overall Product ESG risk profile

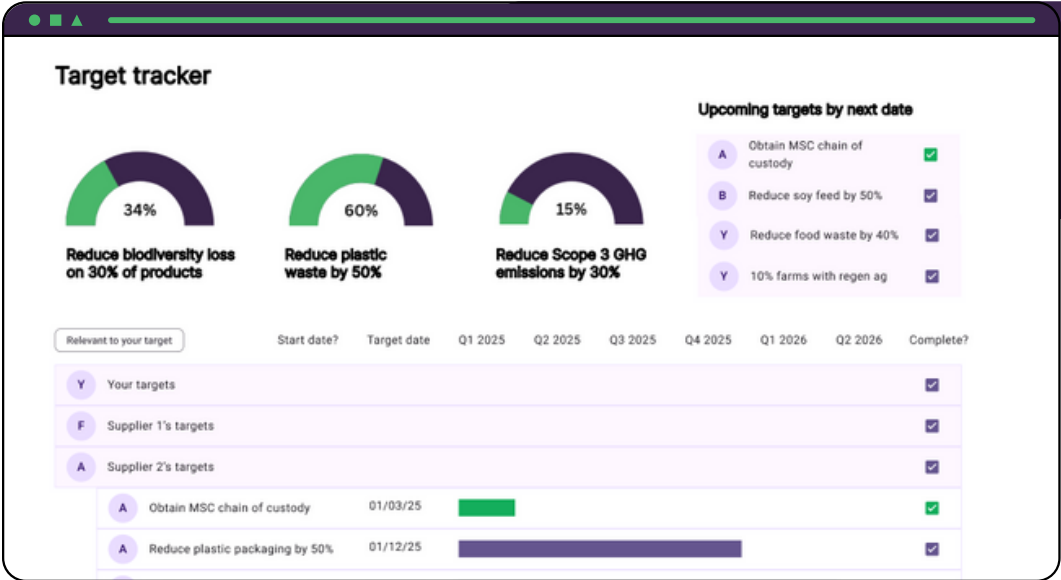
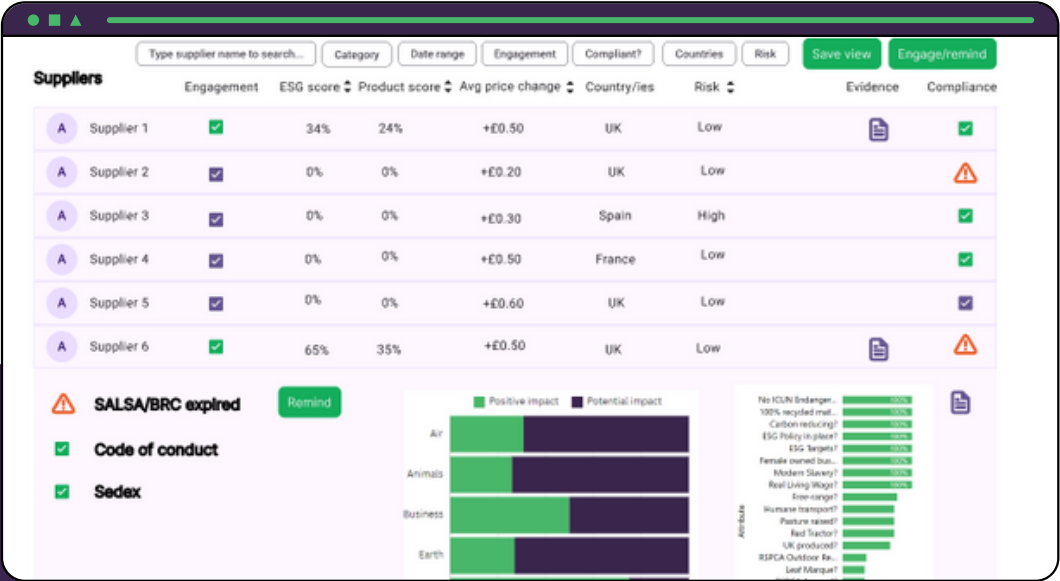


All while providing the detail you need to drive meaningful progress and publish full reports



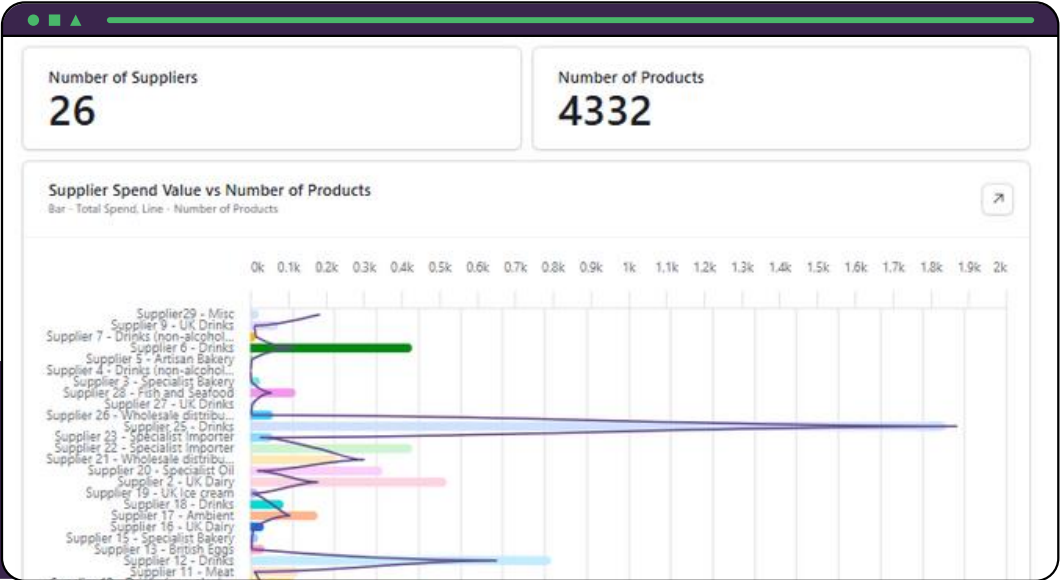
Identify high risk and low scoring products to tackle

Quantify the ESG impact of your spend, and set realistic targets



Track supplier engagement, compliance, and progress towards targets

Consolidate and simplify product inventory



The Solution

Our proposed partnership offers a tailored, powerful solution to streamline supply chain sustainability management and drive compliance across multiple regulations. You will benefit from:

Single Platform for Supplier Compliance, Performance and ESG

- streamline supplier communication
- make it easier for suppliers to provide ESG information
- increase accuracy and consistency of ESG reporting

Automated Compliance Reporting

- reduce risk with automated compliance reporting and alerts
- quickly meet complex and evolving ESG legal requirements
- ensure sustainable procurement policies are being put into practice

Seamless Group-Wide Data Consolidation and System Integration

- Eliminate time and human error on data crunching and mapping
- Reflect and quantify real-time changes to purchasing in ESG reporting
- Facilitate internal benchmarking with multi-site, multi-system spend and ESG reporting

Customizable Data Sourcing and Reporting

- Tailored dashboards and supplier engagement to focus on your specific compliance requirements, sustainability KPIs, chosen eco-accreditations, or customer interest areas
- Visualizations to quickly make sense of complex global supply chains, identify multi-tier risks, and monitor individual supplier performance
- Design-your-own interactive ESG hub to share with customers via QR code



With Our Fractional ESG Services

Scale your sustainability team up or down as required without distracting your operational teams or needing to hire more full-time employees by letting our expert team do the heavy lifting for you. We can:



SUPPLIER ENGAGEMENT

engage suppliers on ESG and
organize engagement days



ESG TRAINING

provide ESG training for your
teams and suppliers



COST-EFFECTIVE SOLUTIONS

suggest sustainable solutions
and optimize procurement



PROJECT MANAGEMENT

project manage a
portfolio of ESG initiatives



ESG BOARD CONSULTANT

consult and report on
ESG at board level

Whether you need more ESG resource on strategy, policy creation, reporting or implementation, our Fractional ESG services can fill your gaps with flexible expert resource. Typically, we start with more intensive support to tackle pressing priorities and then transition to a consistent monthly commitment, offering a minimum of 1.5 days per month for ongoing guidance. This scalable engagement adapts as your needs evolve, delivering measurable ESG results and strengthening brand reputation with expert oversight at every step. If you're looking to transition from using external consultants to managing sustainability in-house, our platform and expert account management can ensure you have the technology and expert advice on hand to help you do this with a lean in-house team.

Custom solutions for any business

Our pricing is designed to scale for any size of business. If you have complex requirements, we recommend starting with our proof-of-capabilities report that will show you what level of data you need for which parts of your supply chain, so that you don't end up spending more than you need to.

Features

- Suppliers included
- Products included
- ESG self-assessment including Scope 1&2
- Tier 1 supplier mapping & local sourcing map
- Risk analysis for key ESG impact areas
- Supplier data sourcing and updates
- Supplier ESG scoring
- Product-level data sourcing and updates
- Eco-accreditation support
- Custom supplier questions and reports

Starter	Pro	Enterprise
50	Unlimited	Unlimited
10	500	Unlimited
\$125/month	\$250/month	Talk to sales

Software add-ons

Additional suppliers for Starter	\$2.50/supplier/month
Additional products for Pro	\$0.30/product/month
Scope 3 calculations	\$0.20/product/month
EUDR compliance & multi-tier traceability	\$0.30/product/month

ST NEOTS TOWN COUNCIL

Committee	ENVIRONMENT AND EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Date:	4th MARCH 2025
Title:	CLIMATE ACTION PLAN ONGOING WORK TIMEFRAME
Contact Officer:	ENVIROMENTAL PROJECT OFFICER

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To receive and consider a report with suggested timescales for completing actions from the Climate Action Plan.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Committee reviews and provides feedback on the suggested timescales for the Environmental Project Officer to take forward.

3. Background

- 3.1 The Climate Action Plan was approved in June 2024 and work has been ongoing in moving forward with key actions, however formal timescales have not been set, meaning individual project delivery is not measurable.
- 3.2 The purpose of this report is to recommend timescales for individual actions, acknowledging that some of these actions will have multiple parts which may require further mapping at a later stage.

4. Information

- 4.1 Please see **APPENDIX B** attached to this report which outlines the actions and proposed timescales for completion.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no financial implications linked to this report or the actions recommended within it.

6. Legal Powers

- 6.1 The action undertaken is covered by the Localism Act 2011, s.1 the General Power of Competence, for which St Neots Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort allowing the Council to do anything an individual can do.

[illegible]

1.5.1 Fleet review of Ops vehicles		high	med	SNTC	NH/AK/IW	Undertake a fleet review to plan a reduction in fossil fuel use in Council vehicles and equipment	TBC	Rev	Review	Replace 2 vehicles with plug in hybrid, and 1 lawnmower with electric					
1.5.2 Environmental Asset Plan for our green spaces		high	med	SNTC	NH/IW	Develop an Environmental Asset Management Plan for our green spaces, parks and cemeteries.	N/A			TBC					
1.5.3 Reduction in pesticide use		high	med	SNTC	NH/IW	Reduction in pesticide use (review all pesticide use, not just Glyphosate)	TBC	Rev		TBC					
1.5.4 Hedgehog warning stickers on strimmers		med	low	SNTC	NH/IW	To remind Ops staff of risk to wildlife	TBC	Rev							
1.5.5 Polywood/recycled materials for repairs		low	high	SNTC	NH/IW	To reduce reliance on new fossil fuel products	TBC	Rev		TBC					
1.6 Procurement and Services We Use															
1.6.1 Reduce printing		high	low	SNTC	NH	Reduce printing to essential only	N/A			TBC					
1.6.2 Review eco credentials of services and contractors		med	med	SNTC	Managers	Will support our aims to reduce our Scope 3 emissions	N/A			TBC					
1.6.3 Eco friendly products/ furniture		high	med	SNTC	Managers	Will support our aims to reduce our Scope 3 emissions	N/A			TBC					
1.6.4 Ecosia search engine use		med	low	SNTC	NH	Ecosia plant trees using the ad revenue from searches.	N/A			TBC					
1.7 Staff and Councillors															
1.7.1 Carbon impact of staff commute		med	med	SNTC	NH	To reduce our Scope 3 emissions, and to lead by example	N/A			TBC					
1.7.2 Purchase e-bike for staff use		med	med	SNTC	NH	To reduce use of private/individual vehicles when travelling between sites	TBC	Rev		TBC					
1.7.3 Eco training for staff /Cllrs		high	low	SNTC	NH	To increase understanding of climate change and environmental issues and the importance of changing our behaviours	TBC	Rev		TBC					
1.8 Events, Markets, and Priory Centre Café (PCC)															
1.8.1 Reduce waste at events/cafe		med	med	SNTC	NH/KP/JC/ BM	Plastic-and-polystyrene free events / PCC, recycling bins, litter picking	TBC	Rev		TBC					
1.8.2 Local and vegan food options		med	med	SNTC	NH/KP/JC/ BM	Reduce environmental impact from our trader’s vehicle emissions and from the meat/dairy industry	TBC	Rev		TBC					
1.8.3 Replace fireworks		med	med	SNTC	NH/KP/JC	Reduce environmental impact of pollutants and harm to wildlife	TBC	Rev		TBC					
1.8.4 Ban balloons and reuse banners at events		med	med	SNTC	NH/KP/JC	Reduce environmental impact of pollutants and harm to wildlife (balloons); reduce need for new fossil fuel production	N/A			TBC					
1.8.5 Public showings of climate films		low	med	SNTC	NH/JC	TBC	To support community access to climate change and environmental information	TBC	Rev	TBC					
1.8.6 Cycling and walking events		low	low	SNTC	NH/JC	HDC/CCC	To encourage active travel	TBC	Rev	TBC					
1.9 Committees															
1.9.1 Environmental-proofing for all policy decisions		high	high	SNTC	NH/Committe es	To safeguard the future of St Neots’ biodiversity and ensure an easy transition away from fossil fuels is possible for our residents	N/A			TBC					
1.10 Networking and Wider Engagement															
1.10.1 Link in with other LA environment teams		high	low	SNTC	NH	HDC/CCC/EA/etc	To share knowledge and resources	N/A		TBC					
1.10.2 Join global Covenant of Mayors		low	low	SNTC	NH/Mayor		To share knowledge and resources	N/A		TBC					
1.10.3 Source wider funding		med	med	SNTC	NH		To access additional funding to support our efforts for a more sustainable St Neots	N/A		TBC					
1.10.4 Work with twin town		low	med	SNTC	?		To share knowledge and resources	N/A		TBC					
1.10.5 Support wider promotional campaigns		med	med	SNTC	NH/JC		Share the work of other organisations with our community, enabling access to wider information	N/A		TBC					
1.10.6 Partnership working with local developers		high	med	SNTC	?		To safeguard the future of St Neots’ sustainability and biodiversity	N/A		TBC					
2. St Neots Town															
2.1 Residents and Community															

2.1.1 Update Neighbourhood Plan		high	med	SNTC	Working group		To safeguard the future of St Neots’ nature and ability to thrive in a rapidly changing climate	TBC	Rev								
2.1.2 Host/support local sustainability initiatives		med	med	SNTC	NH	TBC	Improve sustainability for St Neots residents for environmental and cost reasons	TBC	Rev	TBC							
2.1.3 Build community resilience		high	med	SNTC	NH	TBC	Support residents to understand the climate emergency and to feel empowered to make changes which will improve their resilience to climate change	TBC	Rev	TBC							
2.1.4 Doorstep access to nature		med	low	SNTC	NP working group		To improve the biodiversity of St Neots, and the health and wellbeing of our residents	TBC	Rev	Include in Neighbourhood Plan							
2.1.5 External comms plan		med	med	SNTC	NH/JC		Communicate regular updates on SNTC environmental progress plus useful links and advice	N/A		TBC							
2.2 Business																	
2.2.1 Local business engagement with carbon reduction		low	high	SNTC	NH		Engage with local businesses to explore ways in which they can reduce their own and their customer's carbon footprint	N/A		TBC							
2.2.2 Out-of-town freight transport depot		low	high	SNTC	NP working group		To reduce emissions within the town centre, improving the health of local residents	N/A		Include in Neighbourhood Plan							
2.2.3 Company-sponsored patches of sidewalk		low	med	SNTC	NH		To improve biodiversity whilst fostering a sense of community	N/A		TBC							
2.2.4 Blister pack collection		med	high				Newly serviced by Refill shop and Boots - to review			N/A							
2.2.5 Fast food outlet control		low	high	SNTC	NP working group		Reduce impact of a carbon-heavy industry	N/A		Include in Neighbourhood Plan							
2.2.6 Local farm engagement		low	med	SNTC	NH		To encourage our local farmers to engage with our ambitions to make St Neots net zero and improve biodiversity and food security	N/A		TBC							
2.3 Transport																	
2.3.1 Active travel		med	med	SNTC	NH	CCC	To reduce pollution within the town centre and contribute to efforts to reduce St Neots’ carbon footprint.	TBC	Rev	TBC							
2.3.2 EV chargers on lampposts		low	high	SNTC	NH		To encourage transition away from fossil fuels by making EV charging more accessible	TBC	Rev	TBC							
2.4 Renewable Energy																	
2.4.1 Support community renewable energy schemes		med	med	SNTC	Committees		To reduce local reliance on fossil fuels and ensure energy security through local sustainable generation	TBC	Rev	TBC							
3. Local Environment																	
3.1 Protection of SNTC Land for Biodiversity and Nature Restoration																	
3.1.1 30% of St Neots for nature		high	med	SNTC	NP working group	LA's / developers	To combat the ecological emergency which in turn mitigates against climate change-induced issues	TBC	Rev	Include in Neighbourhood Plan							
3.1.2 Protection of green space		med	high	SNTC	NP working group		To combat the ecological emergency which in turn mitigates against climate change-induced issues	TBC	Rev	Include in Neighbourhood Plan							
3.2 Fauna (Animals)																	
3.2.1 Increase/safeguard biodiversity		high	med	SNTC	NH		To combat the ecological emergency which in turn mitigates against climate change-induced issues	TBC	Rev/Grant	TBC							
3.2.2 Community engagement with nature		high	med	SNTC	NH/JC		Set baselines for our current biodiversity; engage our community to do their bit to improve our biodiversity and environment	N/A		TBC							
3.3 Flora (Plant Life) and Fungi																	
3.3.1 Increase/safeguard biodiversity		high	med	SNTC	NH		To combat the ecological emergency which in turn mitigates against climate change-induced issues	TBC	Rev/Grant	TBC							
3.3.2 Habitat management		high	med	SNTC	NH/IW		To combat the ecological emergency which in turn mitigates against climate change-induced issues; reduce pollution from pesticide runoff	TBC		Rev							

ST NEOTS TOWN COUNCIL

Committee	ENVIRONMENT AND EMERGENCY COMMITTEE
Date:	4th MARCH 2025
Title:	BIODIVERSITY FOR ALL PROJECT
Contact Officer:	ENVIROMENTAL PROJECT OFFICER

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To receive an update on the Biodiversity for All project following the recent completion of the first stage of works.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 None required.

3. Background

- 3.1 A Biodiversity for All grant was provided by HDC to complete a biodiversity project at the Old Cemetery in St Neots.
- 3.2 Queries relating to Diocese permissions led to a delay in the project commencement date, however the first phase of the project has now been completed on February 18th.

4. Information

- 4.1 The first phase of the project consisted of the planting of a native hedgerow and planting of shrubs to infill and extend the understory of the current woodland area.
- 4.2 Phase two (wildflower and native grass overseeding) is due to take place in March, whilst Phase three (native bulbs planting) will take place in late autumn.
- 4.3 The Environmental Project Officer will also be purchasing bird/bat/hedgehog houses with the remaining grant funds.
- 4.4 Photos of the first phase of work and the delivery team are shown below:



The team with a newly planted hedgerow along the fence line



The team in front of the woodland area which has been infilled with shrubs



Some of the newly planted shrubs for understory cover



The new native double-row hedgerow

5. Financial Implications

5.1 There are no financial implications linked to this report or the actions recommended within it.

6. Legal Powers

6.1 The action undertaken is covered by the Localism Act 2011, s.1 the General Power of Competence, for which St Neots Town Council is eligible and is a power of first resort allowing the Council to do anything an individual can do.