



## **2050 Net Zero Policy Statement**

### **Introduction**

In June 2019, the UK Government committed to reducing the UK's net greenhouse gas emissions by at least 100% by 2050, compared to 1990 levels. This target is known as net zero, and milestones towards moving to a net zero emissions economy are now set down in UK law. By encouraging sectors, industries, organisations and individuals to work together in cutting carbon emissions, the hope is that, over the coming decades, the UK can achieve its net zero ambitions and, as a consequence, help reduce global warming and the effects of climate change.

### **What is net zero?**

In simple terms, being net zero means adding no more greenhouse gases to the Earth's atmosphere than the amount you're taking out.

Greenhouse gases - carbon dioxide is the main one, hence the term 'carbon emissions' - are harmful in that they let sunlight pass through the atmosphere but stop the heat from the sunlight going back out into space. Over time, this trapped heat has contributed to global warming and climate change. The carbon emissions produced through industry, transport and agriculture are making this worse. Net zero is intended to help lessen these climate-changing effects and limit global warming to levels that are safer for the world's population.

#### **Carbon neutral vs net zero: what's the difference?**

People often use the terms 'carbon neutral' and 'net zero' as though they're the same thing, but there is a slight difference. If you're a carbon neutral business, for example, you're offsetting the carbon emissions you produce, perhaps by planting trees or supporting renewable energy programmes. This doesn't necessarily mean, however, that you're net zero, as you might not be reducing carbon emissions, only offsetting them. As explained above, net zero is all about helping to reduce to zero (compared to 1990 levels) the greenhouse gases already in the Earth's atmosphere.

### **What does net zero mean for my business?**

The Government's stance is that taking action on climate change will help businesses grow, seize new opportunities, create new jobs, encourage investment and adapt against the challenges of a changing planet. It also believes that by reducing emissions, businesses across the UK will be able to:

- lower their running costs - and save money as a result
- attract new customers and investors
- maintain a competitive advantage, both locally and globally
- qualify for tax benefits
- build a better, more sustainable supply chain.

Even the smallest businesses produce carbon emissions, whether it's through their premises, the vehicles they use, or their supply chain, for example. But reaching net zero is about more than just balancing carbon emissions. What's really involved here is bringing about a transformation in the way businesses of all sizes operate. The Government won't be able to achieve its ambitions for net zero without the support of the UK's businesses.

Given that small and medium-sized enterprises account for approximately 99.9% of the business population in the UK, they will have an extremely vital role to play.

### What is Castlepoint's commitment to achieving Net Zero

Protection of the environment and the climate is important to Castlepoint's businesses. It is underpinned by our Vision to manage waste more effectively and efficiently at all its sites in line with waste management company's environmental, sustainability, carbon and energy management commitments. To achieve this, we will:

- Continually evaluate environmental risks and opportunities associated with aspects and impacts, including consideration of life cycle impacts.
- Plan and support the continued application of improvement strategies and evaluate performance
- Ensure we meet all applicable compliance obligations with due consideration of the needs and expectations of interested parties.
- Provide adequate resources for planning, provision, and maintenance of environmental management plans.


### What are Castlepoint's objectives to achieving Net Zero

The company has set objectives which are monitored and reviewed to enable continuous improvement in our environmental performance to achieve net zero, including:

- **Recycle more:** Commit to recycling paper, plastic and other materials, helping to reduce waste and lessen the impact on the environment.
- **Reduce waste:** Commit to making less waste by managing it more efficiently to achieve less waste going to landfill, ultimately benefiting the environment.
- **Make it company policy:** Castlepoint will make it policy to achieve a reduction in its carbon footprint by training staff and providing information to its market traders and tenants to encourage more recycling and reduce waste and to promote its green achievements to customers and suppliers.
- **Use electricity from renewal sources:** Commit to using electricity from renewal sources where possible to reduce our carbon footprint.
- **Drive, less, or switch to electric vehicles:** Given that over a quarter of the UK's total carbon emission are due to petrol and diesel powered transport, we will encourage its staff and market traders to encourage walking, cycle or use public transport, and making the move to low emissions commissions vehicles to reduce the impact in the environment.
- **Cut down on packaging:** Commit and encourage its traders and customers to avoid packaging altogether, and if not, to use natural, recyclable and recycled materials.
- **Make your supply chain greener:** Castlepoint will commit to using suppliers that are lowering their own carbon emissions, and by buying products that take less energy to make, transport and use.

Engagement and consultation with a wide range of stakeholders help shape these policies and strategies. Castlepoint welcomes suggestions from any interested party, members of the public and employees to improve its environmental performance.

This policy is produced by senior management and has been formally approved by the Director of Castlepoint Markets.

NAME	POSITION	SIGNATURE	DATE
Joseph Pfeffer	Director		22 August 2025