

Greening Business Scheme

Supporting local businesses to understand and reduce their carbon emissions across the Westmorland and Furness area.



Westmorland
& Furness
Council

Greening Business Scheme Guidance, Application Process and Conditions

Please read these guidance notes carefully and refer to them when completing the application form.

1. Introduction

Westmorland and Furness Council has relaunched the Greening Businesses Scheme to support local businesses to understand and reduce their carbon emissions related to their operations and/or activities.

One of the Council's key values is to be ecologically aware providing leadership in the drive to become carbon net zero and be responsible for protecting and enhancing our natural environment.

2. Aim of the Scheme

Westmorland and Furness Council is working closely with CBEN (Cumbria Business Environment Network) to support businesses to understand and reduce their carbon emissions.

Successful applicants from the Greening Businesses Scheme will receive a free carbon assessment from CBEN of their businesses operations and activities.

This scheme will assist Westmorland and Furness Council in delivering on its ambition to reach carbon net-zero by 2037, reduce carbon emissions, reduce air pollution, promote a greener economy and improve the health and wellbeing of the residents of Westmorland and Furness.

3. Criteria

- 3.1. Applications to the Greening Businesses Scheme are welcome from businesses based in Westmorland and Furness.
- 3.2. The business applying for support must:
 - be a Medium, Small or Micro-Enterprise (SME)
 - be a local business (have business premises in W&F)
 - be properly managed
 - have audited accounts and financial transparency

South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, LA9 4DQ
Telephone: 0300 373 3000

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3.3. We do not accept applications from:

- Public sector organisations
- Organisation with less than 50% of income or profits derived from business trading.
- Large business (more than 250 employees, an annual turnover exceeding £36 million or a balance sheet total exceeding £18m).
- Business not physically located in Westmorland and Furness.

3.4. Applications will be assessed on their ability to:

- Provide an aspiration to develop green measures within the business activities and operations
- Demonstrate actions or ambitions to reduce their carbon emissions.
- Contribute to a greener local economy

3.5. We will not make more than one award during 2025/2026 to the same business.

4. How your application is dealt with

4.1. On receipt of your application we will make an initial assessment against the criteria given above. This will check that your business is eligible and that all required supporting documentation has been provided. We may contact you to obtain missing information, documentation or for clarification.

4.2. We aim to acknowledge receipt of your application within five working days. This will be by email unless no email address is provided, in which case a letter will be posted.

4.3. Eligible applications with required supporting documentation will be forwarded and reviewed by the Greening Businesses Panel. The Panel is a forum of key partners capable of influencing the delivery of sustainability and business based projects that contribute to the sustainability, vitality and well-being of communities in Westmorland and Furness.

4.4. The Panel will meet to review all the applications, which will be presented in summary format. The full applications will be made available to them.

4.5. The Panel will be evaluating the different businesses on the criteria set above and will decide which applicants will be awarded a free carbon assessment on that basis.

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- 4.6. Successful applicants will be informed (usually by email), within five working days of the meeting taking place.
- 4.7. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified within five working days of the Panel meeting date. (Feedbacks will be available)
- 4.8. Westmorland & Furness will advise CBEN when applications have been approved and instruct them to contact the applicant and complete the energy audit and carbon footprint report. The report will be submitted to the applicant and Westmorland & Furness Council.

Contact us

Name: Climate and Nature Team

Address: South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, LA9 4DQ

Email: ClimateAction.WAF@cumbria.gov.uk

South Lakeland House, Lowther Street, Kendal, LA9 4DQ
Telephone: 0300 373 3000

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