THE UNIVERSITY *of* EDINBURGH

The Edinburgh Pathway

A collaborative route to sustainable supply chains

Overview

Executive summary

The Edinburgh Pathway is a structured approach that helps both suppliers and buyers build collaborative, fair and sustainable supply chains.

In accordance with the University of Edinburgh's Strategy 2030, we are driven to make the world a better place locally, regionally, and globally. Our role as an anchor institution in the Edinburgh and South East Scotland City Region Deal empowers us to collaborate with local schools, colleges and universities, public authorities, industry partners and government to deliver positive environmental and social impact.

To address the climate emergency and support national net-zero targets, it is essential to consider carbon emissions from all sources. Like many other organisations, carbon emissions from our supply chain account for around 55-65% of our emissions. These supply chains also impact on other environmental sustainability areas such as biodiversity as well as social impacts such as human rights violations and increased opportunities to build wealth in the community. We consider this to be responsible procurement.

The Edinburgh Pathway will be applied directly at the University of Edinburgh as one lever for reducing the environmental and social impact of our supply chain. However, we see the Edinburgh Pathway as an opportunity for buying organisations across the Further and Higher Education (FHE) sector, as well as wider public bodies, to work closely with suppliers, aligning their approach to responsible procurement. By taking a collaborative approach, we will:

1. Reduce the resource implications for buying organisations and for suppliers by standardising the ask of our supply chain, and setting out clear timescales to these.
2. Promote best practice by increasing knowledge sharing and use of shared tools or resources
3. Utilise our research, learning and teaching to support suppliers to set, and take appropriate action to achieve, pragmatic decarbonisation targets
4. Support local and national climate targets, maximising the possibility of staying within a 1.5 degree global warming scenario

This document sets out the rationale for developing a collaborative pathway, explaining the initial focus on supply chain carbon emissions, highlighting how the Edinburgh Pathway aligns to existing work in the FHE sector and wider public procurement landscape, and provides examples of how a collaborative approach will be implemented with other buying organisations and suppliers.

The Edinburgh Pathway consists of four strands:

- **Embedding**: This strand aims to build up the knowledge and skills of our internal buying community in relation to responsible procurement.
- **Commitment and action**: This strand supports suppliers to set science-aligned targets, underpinned by SMART action plans.
- **Data**: This strand focuses on improving the quality of data available from suppliers, enabling our buying community to make informed decisions on the products they require.
- **Monitoring and reporting**: This strand ensures suppliers are on track towards their commitments, highlighting good practice and notifying all partners when action is needed to realign.

Implementation guidance for buying organisations and suppliers is available on request.

Contents

Background

Why do we need a science-aligned approach to reducing emissions?

Science-aligned targets are those which reach net zero carbon emissions by 2050 at the latest. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) state that for a 50% chance of staying within 1.5°C of warming, we must reduce our emissions globally by at least 43% of 2018-19 levels by 2030 and at least 90% by 2040, against a 2018-19 baseline.

Science recognises action this decade as crucial, defining maximum cumulative emissions and critical decarbonisation pathways to stay within safe climate limits.

Even staying within safe climate limits (defined as within 1.5°c by the IPCC), there are a number of changes to the climate that are already underway:

- Global ocean temperatures measured in April 2023 were significantly warmer than the worst-case scenarios in previous climate modelling[1].
- A paper in May 2023, shows revised ice sheet melt models may double sea level rise estimates[2].
- The UK Environment Agency updated in May 2023 that the London tidal barrier will need to be raised 15 years earlier than planned due to accelerating sea level rise[3].
- Revised estimations of strengthened El Nino economic impacts due to climate change are projected to impact the global economy by $84 trillion in 21st century, and $3 trillion from the 2023 El Nino alone[4].
- In April 2023 a heatwave in the western Mediterranean saw temperatures 20°C higher than average, and 6°C higher than previous records for the time of year. Half of all people globally experienced record-breaking temperatures in the past 10 years[5]. A study in Nature in March 2023 predicts that, with current carbon emissions, the deep ocean circulation currents around Antarctica could slow by 40% by 2050[6].

Can we achieve a science-aligned decarbonisation scenario?

Initiatives such as the Science Based Target Initiative (SBTi) set science-based decarbonisation pathways. The UK Government stands behind a commitment to reduce emissions to net zero by 2050, with the Scottish Government setting out more ambitious targets to reduce emissions to net zero by 2045.

Achieving these targets is becoming more challenging with each passing year, but there are reasons for optimism. While there is uncertainty due to political changes, the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act in the United States of America, had committed $370bn to green technology subsidies[7].

The EU's Green Deal (2019)[8], European Climate Law (2021)[9], Fit for 55 plan (2022)[10], RepowerEU (2022)[11], and Green Deal Industrial Plan (2023)[12] have collectively committed €250bn, with a further €270bn under discussion for green technology subsidies and a raft of policies and laws to drive down emissions 55% by 2030 (from 1990 levels). Following the Ukraine war, additional renewable capacity equivalent to China's current annual power consumption has been funded for installation by 2027[13].

Locally, the Scottish Government have a legally binding commitment to a Just Transition, with a focus on people and equity. This has supported the development of the industry-led Energy Skills Passport, designed to help oil and gas workers identify transferable skills and training needs to support transitions into key offshore wind roles.

What supply chain impacts does the Pathway address?

The Edinburgh Pathway encourages buying organisations to consider Responsible Procurement as a whole, acknowledging there is significant interaction between aspects of environmental sustainability and social impact.

This includes: biodiversity; chemicals and other pollutants entering our environment; as well as social challenges such as human rights and fair working practices.

For our suppliers, The Edinburgh Pathway currently focuses on climate change and carbon because these areas have more advanced organisational targets, supplier understanding and availability of comparable data.

The Greenhouse Gas Protocol outlines three scopes for carbon emissions:

Scope 1: These are direct emissions that are owned or controlled by a company

Scope 2: these are indirect emissions associated with the purchase of electricity, steam, heat, or cooling.

Scope 3. Indirect emissions, either upstream or downstream from the organisation.

The diagram on the right illustrates these.

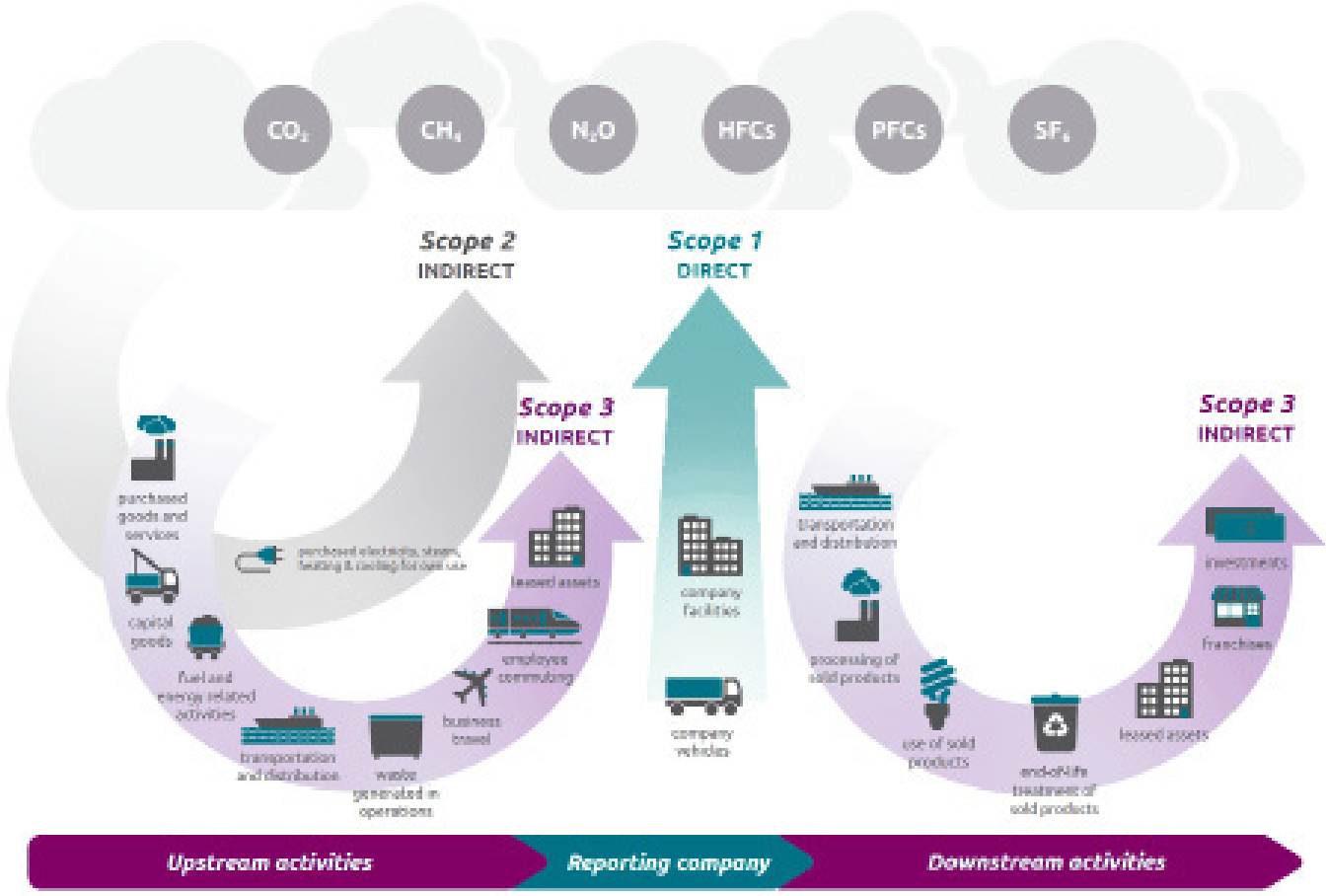


Diagram of scopes and emissions across the value chain, provided by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. Available at: ghgprotocol.org

What supply chain impacts does the Pathway address? (continued)

Most Further and Higher Education (FHE) organisations understand, and are addressing, their Scope 1 and 2 emissions. However, Scope 3 emissions are less targeted within organisational strategies, are not calculated to the same accuracy, and have fewer actions in place to address them.

When considering the FHE sector, not all of Scope 3 categories are relevant, while others are significant proportions of an FHE institution's carbon emission footprint.

Overall, it is estimated that supply chain emission account for between 55-65% of an FHE institution's total carbon emissions, with a significant proportion of these attributed to:

- Purchased goods and services
- Capital goods
- Business travel

The EAUC-Scotland analysis report for the Public Bodies Climate Change Duty Reporting (PBCCD) noted that, in the 2022-23 financial year, 51% of Scottish FHE organisations reported Scope 3 emissions, and these accounted for 46% of the total sector emissions in that period. As more institutions report on these, it is expected that the total figure will grow significantly.

When considering the sector's potential influence in these areas, it is estimated that over £20bn was spent by UK FHE institutions on non-pay spend in 2023-24[14]. This sum suggests that, together, we may be able to have an impact on reducing the carbon emissions within our supply chains.

The Edinburgh Pathway addresses the shortfall in current action to address Scope 3 emissions in relation to the goods, services and works we purchase within the FHE sector. While many organisations are still working to set out their carbon targets across their direct and indirect emissions, the Edinburgh Pathway, alongside additional measures such as demand management and embedding circular economy principles, looks to support the sector towards the common goal of keeping within a science-aligned decarbonisation scenario in regards to our Scope 3 emissions, and to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.

How does the Edinburgh Pathway align to existing work within the Further and Higher Education (FHE) sector?

While these examples concern the FHE sector specifically, other public bodies will have similar commitments.

The UKRI Concordat for Environmental Sustainability of Research and Innovation Practice

This Concordat sets out targets and expectations for a range of thematic areas, one of which is sustainable procurement. The Edinburgh Pathway would act as a mechanism for supporting the objectives of the concordat.

Race to Zero

This is a pledge at head-of-organisation level to reach net zero greenhouse gasses (GHGs) by 2050 at the latest, in line with global efforts to limit warming to 1.5°c. Within UK FHE, this is administered by EAUC. The Edinburgh Pathway aligns to the "Pledge" and "Persuade" elements of Race to Zero.

Scottish Procurement Policy Notes (SPPN) 3/2022

This Procurement Policy Note taking account of climate and circular economy considerations. Within this, the Scottish Government are requiring organisations to improve reporting across all scopes. There is also a requirement for organisations to outline how are intending to action and monitor carbon emissions reductions across procurement using Climate Action Plan Templates (also knowns as "From Now to 2030 / FNT2030" templates). The Edinburgh Pathway would act as a mechanism for achieving these Climate Action Plans by FHE organisations or associated organisations.

UK Government Procurement Policy Notice (PPN) 06/21

While only applicable to contracts over £5m, this Procurement Policy Note (PPN) includes requirements for bidding suppliers, as part of the selection criterion, to provide a Carbon Reduction Plan confirming the supplier's commitment to achieving Net Zero by 2050. The Edinburgh Pathway would act as a mechanism for supporting suppliers to complete these Carbon Reduction Plans.

NHS England net zero supply chain roadmap

While not directly related to the FHE sector, the NHS England roadmap, released in 2022, outlines how they intend to approach this challenge across their large supply chain. There will be significant overlap between NHS England and FHE suppliers and so, in order to facilitate progress across the NHS England and FHE supply chains, the Edinburgh Pathway aligns to the NHS England pathway. However, there are some additional actions added along the FHE pathway, in particular related to data and interim target setting prior to 2045.

How does the Edinburgh Pathway support organisational net-zero targets?

The Edinburgh Pathway sets out to achieve net-zero emissions from the supply chain by 2045 (2050 where suppliers registered office address is outside of Scotland). It is expected that actions from suppliers will significantly contribute to reducing emissions from the supply chain. However, in recognition that not all suppliers will be able to follow a science-aligned pathway, the Edinburgh Pathway is intended as one lever of several for buying organisations to support the reduction in carbon emissions from the supply chain.

Other levers available for buying organisations include reducing overall purchasing via demand management and embedding of circular economy principles, and switching to more sustainable suppliers and products where purchases remain necessary and suppliers are unable to meet science- aligned pathways.

By taking this approach, buying organisations can adopt the Edinburgh Pathway whilst also aligning to their organisation's carbon emission reduction targets (where sooner than 2050).

Why is a collaborative approach necessary?

Individual buying organisations are starting to address their Scope 3 emissions. While some categories are more mature - such as business travel - others are in their infancy. There are several benefits to adopting a collaborative approach, which are outlined below:

1. **Collaboration leads to greater efficiency.** Buying organisations are increasing their own resource to ask specific questions of suppliers, and suppliers are using up more resource to respond to these individual requests. By working together, we will avoid duplication of work and gain more consistent (and, likely, better quality) responses from our suppliers. In turn, suppliers will be able to focus on taking action to reduce their impact.

2. **We procure through many of the same frameworks**, which are agreed at sector level (UK Universities Procurement Consortia) and national level (Crown Commercial Services / Scotland Excel / SCAPE).

   While the percentage of spend a buying organisation may attribute through a framework will vary, these are essential mechanisms to ensure that a significant number of key suppliers are included. As such, it is important that across these frameworks, our approach aligns.

3. **We can build better relationships with our supply chain.** Working together, we can support specific suppliers to increase innovation within the supply chain, leading to benefits for:

- our suppliers – in the form of increased business with the sector or greater supply chain efficiencies
- buying organisations – in the form of being able to offer more suitable goods, services or works to our buyers.

4. **Climate change affects us all**, so we should be looking to make as much change as we can in order to limit global warming to below 1.5°C. By working together, we will support buying organisations and suppliers of all sizes to ensure a significant emissions reduction across our collective supply chains.

How will we collaborate?

Collaboration with other buying organisations will include:

- sharing of resources, tools and knowledge;
- agreement on common language and ask of our supply chain;
- selecting a dedicated platform for suppliers to share documents, data and reports;
- equipping our buying community to request more sustainable products.

With our suppliers, collaboration will include:

- developing a resource hub for suppliers, signposting to dedicated resources to help suppliers complete these actions working with suppliers to ensure these remain relevant and effective;
- agreeing appropriate reporting templates and schedules;
- establishing research projects to support suppliers achieve specific Pathway steps
- providing dedicated training and support to suppliers;
- sharing supplier- or sector-specific best practice methodologies;
- discussing sustainability within Contract Management meetings, highlighting good practice and working together to overcome challenges.

Examples of research projects could include:

- establishing the most suitable methodology for calculating carbon impact for a sector;
- determining which actions will have the greatest impact for a specific supplier or supply chain;
- market research to examine barriers and opportunities for new innovation among the buying community;
- exploring suppliers' readiness to examine wider sustainability impacts (e.g. biodiversity or water use);
- utilising redundant products to create new products with the same, or different, function.

The Edinburgh Pathway

The Edinburgh Pathway: an overview

The Edinburgh Pathway is a structured approach that helps both suppliers and buyers build collaborative, fair and sustainable supply chains.

For buying organisations, this means making sustainable decisions when purchasing. To do this, the Edinburgh Pathway ensures that buyers have the required knowledge, skills and data on carbon emissions and wider responsible procurement themes before purchasing.

The initial focus for suppliers is the transition to net zero, in line with science-aligned targets. This means completing a timetable of actions to align to a net zero decarbonisation pathway. These progressive actions sit in the categories of commitment & action, data, and reporting and monitoring.

Embedding (buying organisations)

By 2028, our buying community will have the knowledge, skills and tools to recognise key responsible procurement themes. Our processes will ensure that sustainability is considered alongside cost and quality.

Commitment and actions (suppliers)

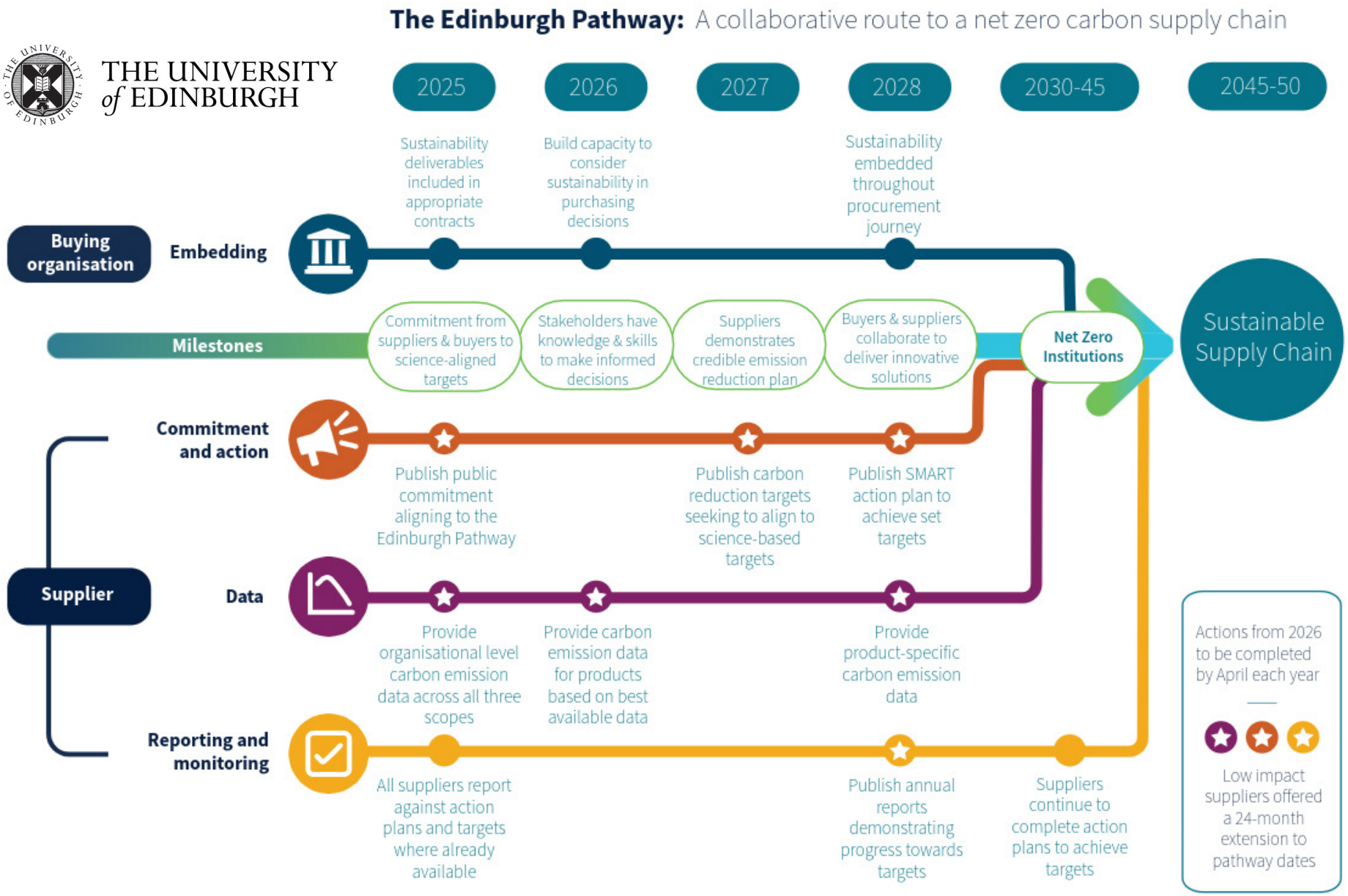
By 2028, our highest-impact suppliers will have set science-aligned targets, underpinned by SMART action plans. We will see an increase in innovative products that support our ambitions to achieve net zero.

Data (suppliers)

By 2028, the quality of data available from suppliers will have matured from a broad spend-based methodology to product-level environmental detail. This will enable our buying community to make informed decisions on the products they require. .

Reporting and monitoring (suppliers)

By 2028, we will be in position to track our suppliers commitments, highlighting good practice and notifying partners when action is needed to realign. We will use these to monitor the impact of our actions on scope 3 emissions.



Visual representation of the Edinburgh Pathway for buying organisations and suppliers

Buying organisations

Buying organisations

By 2028, our buying community will have the knowledge, skills and tools to recognise key responsible procurement themes. Our processes will ensure that sustainability is considered alongside cost and quality.

Buying organisations have a duty to support suppliers to undertake their Pathway steps and actions.

Buying organisations will work together to provide suitable resources to suppliers throughout the Pathway, using the expertise that is available within the our organisations as well as signposting to existing support programmes.

Implementation guidance for buying organisations is available on request.

Levels of commitment to the Pathway

The greatest challenge to a collaborative approach is the spectrum of readiness across buying organisations to take action.

As such, there are two levels of commitment for the Edinburgh Pathway:

Adopting organisation

Endorsement from relevant senior leadership (e.g. Head of Procurement; Director of Finance) which commits the buying organisation to all actions in the Edinburgh Pathway and, as a minimum, to achieve the requirements set out in the "Implementation guidance for Buying Organisations" document.

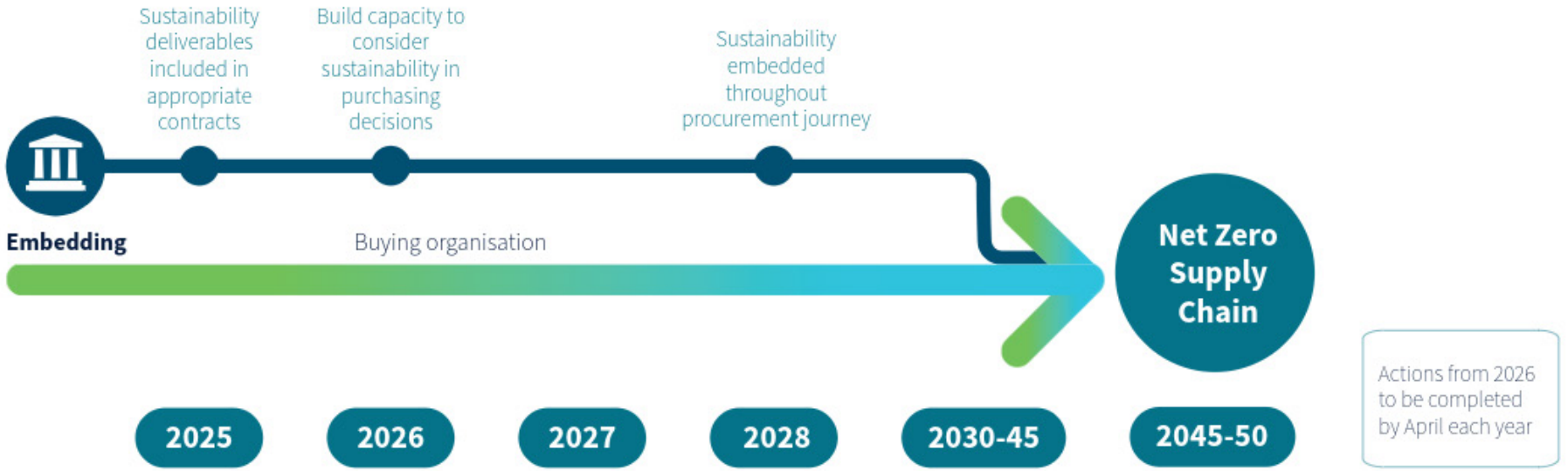
Supporting organisation

Where a buying organisation is unable to fully commit to all Pathway actions but does commit to aligning their requests to suppliers as set out in the "Implementation Guidance for Buying Organisations" document.

It is possible for supporting organisations to become adopting organisations by updating their commitment to the Edinburgh Pathway at a later date.

Embedding

Buying organisations: embedding



Sustainability deliverables included in appropriate contracts

From December 2025

This step ensures that key sustainability deliverables are included in new contracts. Exact deliverables would depend on the key thematic areas for the goods, services or works being procured, as well as the chosen procurement route (e.g. Direct Award, Quick Quote, Non-Competitive Actions ...).

This step is focused on “appropriate” contracts. These would be for suppliers with high impact on sustainability. “Appropriate” also considers whether the supplier has already agreed to specific deliverables in existing contracts – ensuring these deliverables are built on in the new contract.

Build capacity to consider sustainability in purchasing decisions

By April 2026

This step looks to ensure that budget holders, requisitioners, and those that support throughout the purchasing journey across the buying organisation (e.g. Procurement lead; the User Intelligence Group - UIG; those that process Purchase Orders) have the knowledge, skills and tools to make informed decisions on how best to incorporate sustainability when considering purchasing new goods, services or works.

Sustainability embedded throughout procurement journey

By April 2028

This step ensures that the whole procurement journey – from identifying a need through to contract management – is considered through a sustainability lens. Where this is not possible, a mitigation statement is provided to explain the clear rationale behind such a decision.

Suppliers

Suppliers

Tiered approach

To ensure impact is achieved effectively, the pathway focuses on suppliers with the highest material impact first, with two methods for classifying high-impact suppliers available to buying organisations in the technical implementation guidance.

Method 1: based on estimated carbon emissions from preceding period. Within FHE this could be using either the APUC Scope 3 report or the Higher Education Supply Chain Emission Tool (HESCET)

Method 2: takes into account of wider sustainability themes for future procurements. Within FHE this could be using the UKUPC Responsible Procurement Mapping Tool or Scottish Government Sustainable Procurement Toolkit.

It is expected that our first tier of suppliers will be our 60-100 highest impact suppliers, who account for the top 60% of our emissions.

Between 2027 and 2028, we anticipate approaching our second most impactful tier of suppliers, which will account for a further 15% of our carbon emissions.

The final stage will be between 2028 and 2030, where we approach our third most impactful tier of suppliers, accounting for a further 10% of our supply chain carbon emissions.

A 24-month extension is provided within the Pathway for lower-impact suppliers on the following outputs:

- an organisational carbon target, carbon reduction plan to reach these targets, and annual reports noting progress
- sustainability data at product level.

It is expected that the majority of Small- and Medium-sized Enterprise (SME_{16}) will be classified as lower-impact suppliers, and this aligns to our understanding that these suppliers are likely to have less resource to action the pathway in the short term.

However, where an SME is considered high-impact, we will work with them to complete the relevant Pathway steps.

Stars in the pathway diagrams show where 24-month extensions can be applied by lower-impact suppliers.

The Edinburgh Pathway is a lever to open up dialogue and explore collaborative opportunities with suppliers as we strive to decarbonise our supply chains.

We will focus on understanding the risks and opportunities for various sectors, and work with these sectors to develop solutions.

This section sets out how to use the Pathway as a supplier.

For suppliers, there are three key strands:

Commitment & action: By 2028, our highest-impact suppliers will have set science-aligned targets, underpinned by SMART action plans. We will see an increase in innovative products that support our ambitions to achieve net zero.

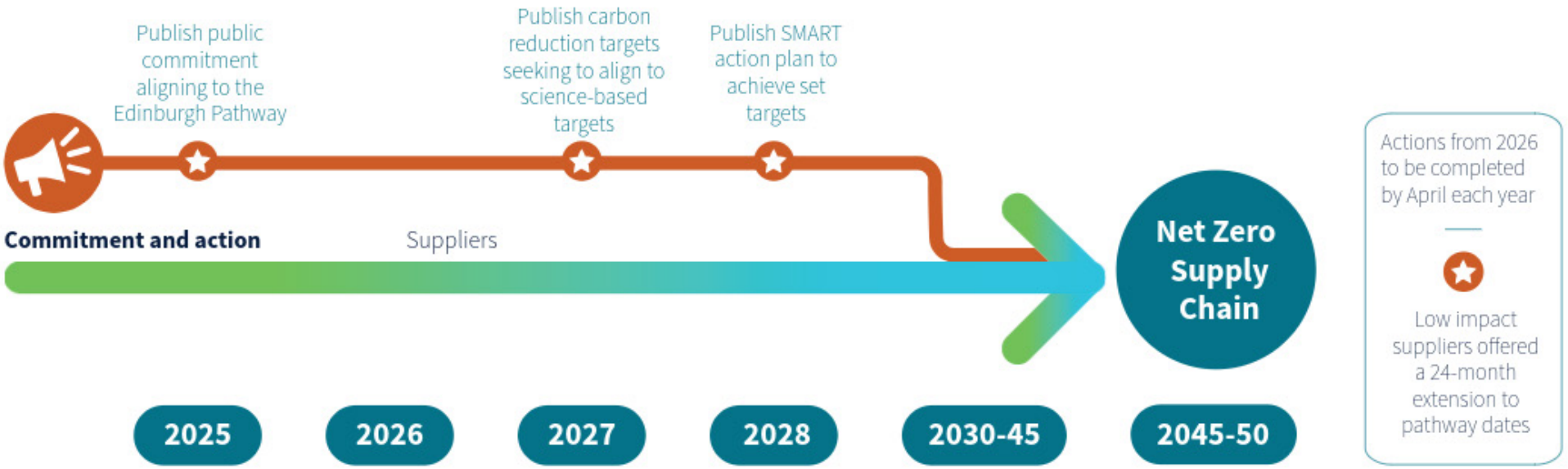
Data: By 2028, the quality of data available from suppliers will have matured from a broad spend-based methodology to product-level environmental detail. This will enable our buying community to make informed decisions on the products they require.

Reporting and monitoring: By 2028, we will be in position to track our suppliers commitments, highlighting good practice and notifying when action is needed to realign. We will use these to monitor the impact of our actions on scope 3 emissions.

Technical guidance for suppliers is available on request.

Commitment and action

Suppliers: commitment and action



Publish public commitment aligning to the Edinburgh Pathway

From December 2025

Suppliers will be asked by buyers to commit to undertaking the actions set out in the Edinburgh Pathway before the new contract start date. This must be publicly available on a relevant section of the supplier's website, with endorsement from relevant leadership. Once published, the link to this page must be shared with the buying organisation.

Publish carbon reduction target seeking to align to science-aligned targets

By April 2027

This step ensures that suppliers confirm their commitment to reducing carbon emissions for material emissions categories across all three scopes, and have a credible route to achieving this, aligned to the current scientific consensus.

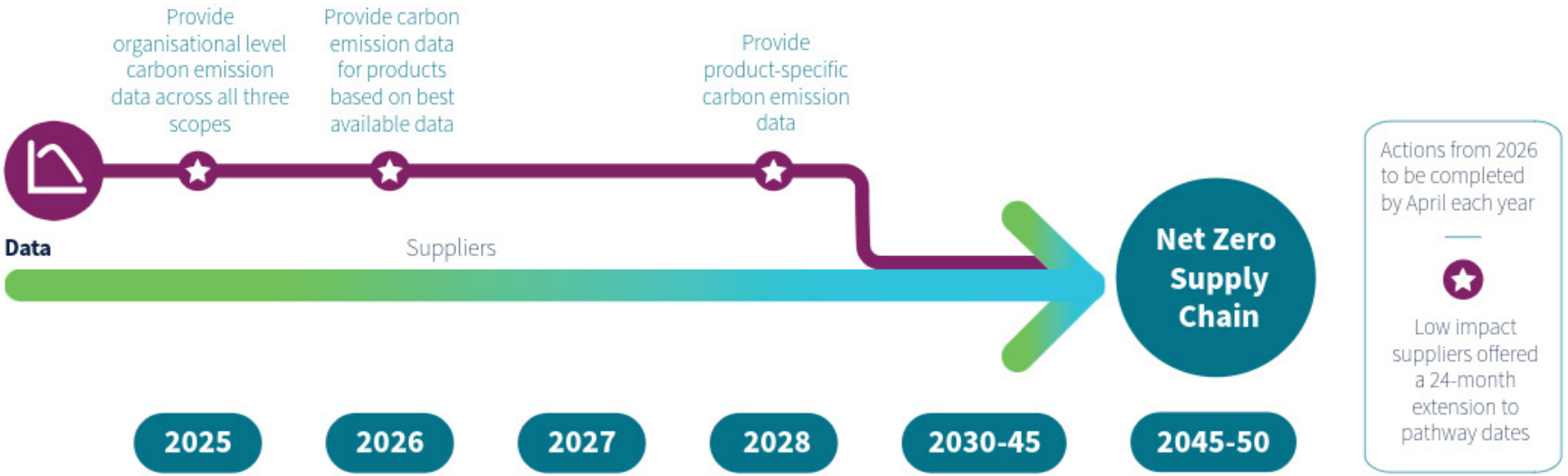
Publish SMART action plan to achieve set targets

By April 2028

Supplier to publish an action plan online and shared with the buying organisation. These must include SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time-based) actions the supplier will take to achieve carbon reduction target, with these captured and updated through a suitable reporting process. This action plan must be shared with the buying organisation either directly or, where available, through relevant supplier management and sustainability assessment platforms.

Data

Suppliers: data



Provide organisational level carbon emission data across all three scopes

From December 2025

Carbon emission data is provided by suppliers for their organisation through an appropriate tool, and updated annually. This information will be coupled with organisational turnover to develop a supplier-specific carbon factor, providing a more accurate representation of emissions associated with this supplier and allowing for tracking of progress against targets.

Carbon emission calculations for the organisation will include Scope 1, 2 and material categories of Scope 3, with clear methodology which includes the boundaries and calculations used, as well as details of any assumptions included in these figures.

Provide carbon emission data for products based on best available data

By April 2026

This step requires suppliers to provide carbon emissions for the goods, services and works provided through the contract in advance of the purchasing decision, e.g. on catalogues or as part of quotes or bids. It is expected that the carbon emission values provided in this step are, as a minimum, based on average carbon factors for the products in question.

Transparent methodology is required, including the boundaries and calculations used, as well as any assumptions included in these figures should be provided alongside these carbon values. In addition, suppliers will be required to report actual emissions generated against a buying organisations specific contract, provided on annual basis (or at the end of contract, where it is a one-off purchase).

Provide product-specific carbon emission data

By April 2028

This step requires suppliers to calculate the carbon emissions for new goods, services and works provided. This must be specific for the product being provided within the contract, based on genuine data for that product rather than commodity or sector averages. Example of good practice here would include the Greenhouse Gas Protocols Life-Cycle Analysis (LCA), though other, equivalent, standards would also be accepted.

Greenhouse Gas Protocols Life-Cycle Analysis (LCA)

Suppliers: data

Accounting for differences in supplier maturity

Supply chain carbon emission data is considered at three levels of maturity by the Scottish Government[17] , with examples of sectors for each of these levels shown in the table below.

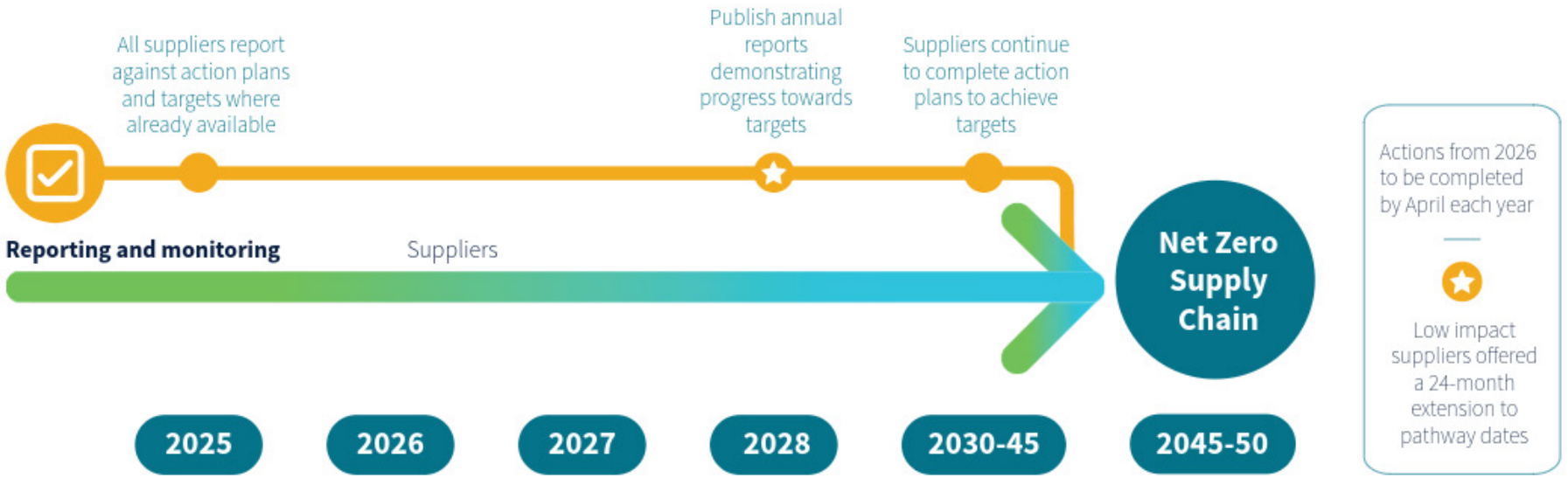
It is expected that supply chain sectors with data at a high level of maturity (green) will progress through the steps of the Edinburgh Pathway as set out on the previous page. Suppliers from sectors with lower maturity levels (amber or red) are expected to take additional action to provide more granular data (i.e. to become more mature in relation to their data accuracy).

It may be necessary to extend the timelines for this pathway strand for a small number of sectors where it is not possible for data to mature in the timelines set out in the Edinburgh Pathway. This should be determined on a case-by-case basis, and extensions only considered where no other alternatives are available.

Maturity status	Definition	Example sectors
Red	Data is estimated and has a large margin of error – e.g. based on industry norms/estimated factors.	IT Software, professional services, equipment maintenance.
Amber	Data is estimated and has a moderate margin of error – e.g. based on spend data.	Lab consumables, food & drink, clothing, furniture and other soft furnishings.
Green	Data is measured/supplier specific and has a smaller or known margin of error.	Business Travel, construction, certain IT hardware (e.g. laptops, desktops or Multi-Function Devices).

Reporting and measuring

Suppliers: reporting and monitoring



All suppliers report against action plans and targets where already available

From December 2025

Where suppliers are already aligned to the Edinburgh Pathway, relevant carbon emission reduction targets and associated action plans are provided to the institution either directly or, where available, through relevant supplier management and sustainability assessment platforms.

Publish annual reports demonstrating progress towards targets

By April 2028

Suppliers provide updates of progress against the Pathway action plan annually. Where necessary, action plans are updated to reflect opportunities and challenges. All annual reports are captured and updated either directly or, where available, through relevant supplier management and sustainability assessment platforms.

Suppliers continue to complete action plans to achieve targets

From 2030 onwards

All managed suppliers are expected to have provided carbon reduction targets and associated action plans and be on track to deliver against these.

Adopting the Pathway

The Edinburgh Pathway at the University of Edinburgh

The University of Edinburgh formally adopted the Edinburgh Pathway in late 2025. We are starting to work with our suppliers to embed the Edinburgh Pathway across our most impactful supply chains.

Further information for staff of the University of Edinburgh can be found on the University's Procurement Hub.

edin.ac/edinburgh-pathway

Adopting the Edinburgh Pathway as a buying organisation

We welcome discussions on how other buying organisations, whether from the Further and Higher Education (FHE) sector or wider public body sectors, can adopt the Edinburgh Pathway.

If you are interested in adopting the Edinburgh Pathway at your organisation, additional details are available on the University of Edinburgh's website.

edin.ac/pathway

You can also contact the Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability using the email address below.

Adopting the Edinburgh Pathway as a supplier

We welcome discussions with interested suppliers as to how they can adopt the Edinburgh Pathway.

If you are interested in adopting the Edinburgh Pathway as a supplier, additional details are available on the University of Edinburgh website.

edin.ac/pathway

You can also contact the Department for Social Responsibility and Sustainability using the email address below.

Responsible.Procurement@ed.ac.uk

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14 https://www.hesa.ac.uk/data-and-analysis/finances/expenditure

15 https://www.eauc.org.uk/scef

16 The UK Government definition of an SME is used for this purpose (a turnover or balance sheet equal to, or less than, €50m [~ £42.5m]; or total staff headcount less than 250).

17 https://web.archive.org/web/20250716102106/https://www.gov.scot/publications/public-sector-leadership-global-climate-emergency/pages/9/

The Edinburgh Pathway

A collaborative route to a sustainable supply chain

Overview

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Email: SRS.Department@ed.ac.uk
Phone: 0131 650 4065

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