

Every Business Commits

Reduce carbon and protect the environment

For example:

- Cut your energy by 10% a year
- Take further steps to reduce your waste
- Encourage greener travel such as car sharing and bike to work schemes

Improve skills and create jobs

For example:

- Increase the number of apprenticeships/work experience placements for unemployed people, especially unemployed young people
- Ensure everyone in your organisation has basic literacy, numeracy and IT skills

Support your community

For example:

- Encourage volunteering and philanthropy, make your company's time, skills and resources available to neighbourhood groups, local arts organisations and for social action
- Make available and actively promote payroll giving to all employees
- Help employees learn how to get involved in social action, for example by supporting them to take a Citizen University course

Improve quality of life and well being

For example:

- Make your workplace more family-friendly and offer flexible working wherever possible
- Take further steps to improve the health and well-being of your workforce
- Support diversity in the workplace

Support small and medium sized enterprises

For example:

- Pay suppliers on time
- Mentor a business, start-up or social enterprise
- Use small local firms wherever possible

Building our
Big Society

The Government Commits

Our commitment is to help businesses succeed so they can create the jobs, wealth and opportunity we need. We will create a new economic dynamism in this country by reforming taxation, regulation, public spending and public sector procurement to encourage enterprise and make it easier for firms – especially SMEs – to grow.

Successful businesses are responsible businesses. Through organisations like Business in the Community, companies of all sizes and in all sectors are learning from each other how to minimise their negative social and environmental impacts, and maximise the positive – benefiting commercially in the process.

But there's always more that could be done. We're all in this together, and if more businesses in Britain followed the leadership of the best, they could make a real impact on some of the biggest challenges we face. Overleaf are five priorities, with specific examples of steps that every one of Britain's businesses could take.

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