



 CLIMATE  
LEADERS  
COALITION

# Annual Plan 2023/24

To unite New Zealand businesses and accelerate our transition towards a zero carbon and climate resilient future

[www.climateleaderscoalition.org.nz](http://www.climateleaderscoalition.org.nz)



## The year ahead

For the business community uncertainty is our new normal. Whether that's in relation to the economic environment, political changes, or the climate challenges we are facing with increasing regularity and ferocity.

Climate change mitigation and adaptation are urgent business needs, and our signatories know achieving deeper emissions reductions will only get harder from here.

For our part, the Coalition will continue to act as a beacon for business action on climate change to encourage those not taking action to start, and those already on the journey to go further and faster. We are focussed on supporting all of our signatories to meet the minimum commitments of our new Statement of Ambition by the end of September 2023, through tools like our monthly online Masterclasses, business-to-business mentoring programme, and regular networking opportunities.

We look forward to transparently demonstrating our individual and collective efforts in November when we release our annual Snapshot Report, which this year as the Coalition celebrates its fifth anniversary, will also reflect our achievements since we launched in 2018.

We will then turn our attention to supporting our signatories to work towards their 2025 Statement commitments including tackling Scope 3 emissions, proactively enabling board members and customers to take climate action and assessing nature-based risk and long-term climate positive targets.

Our new Statement is ambitious but I'm confident we can meet the challenge together.

Ahead of October's General Election, we will also continue to advocate alongside the Sustainable Business Council for effective climate change policy to provide businesses the certainty and confidence needed to continue investing in mitigation and adaptation. This includes in relation to the Government's second Emissions Reduction Plan, Just Transitions Strategy, and the very live issues around adaptation and managed retreat following Cyclone Gabrielle and this year's other major weather events.

With the scale of the challenges ahead of us, it is clear a greater focus on innovation and collaboration within and between the public and private sectors will also be needed to accelerate our transition towards a zero carbon and climate resilient economy. We will continue to lead the way.

Ngā mihi



**Jolie Hodson**

Coalition Convenor and CEO of Spark

# Our signatories



Create around

**32 per cent of GDP**



Have collective turnover of

**\$126 billion**



Employ more than

**210,000 people**

# Our strategy

## CLC/SBC SHARED VISION

A New Zealand where business, people and nature thrive together.

## MISSION

CEOs leading the response to climate change through collective, transparent and meaningful action on mitigation and adaptation.

## PURPOSE

To build irreversible momentum in New Zealand towards a zero carbon and climate resilient future.

## BY 2025

New Zealand businesses are:

- Influencing climate action in the value chains of signatories.
- Creating momentum, so other businesses must act on climate change.
- Maintaining pressure on all political parties to adopt policies and make investments that enable the transition to a zero carbon and climate resilient economy.

## CEO LEADERSHIP

CEO-led commitment to climate action in business.

## COLLECTIVE TRANSPARENCY

Annual reporting on emissions, actions and risks.

## CLIMATE ACTION

Delivering on the Statement of Ambition.



## DEMONSTRATE ACTION

Annual Snapshot reporting collective emissions and climate action including adaptation and influence. Hold one another to account.

## COLLABORATION

Onboarding, mentoring, media and communications, showcasing best practice, collaborations.

## SBC RELATIONSHIP

Platform for government advocacy, thought leadership, partnerships, communications, sector and issue-specific workstreams.

## Supporting signatories to go further and faster on their climate action

In June 2022 we launched our third Statement of Ambition which reflects signatories' desire to be climate leaders as science and policy evolves. The Statement is designed to drive signatories to go further and faster across the three key pillars of climate action – mitigation, adaptation and transition.

Existing signatories have until the end of September 2023 to meet the minimum requirements of the Statement of Ambition (**bolded in the Statement text**), while new signatories must meet the minimum requirements to be able to join.

All signatories must be working towards meeting the full Statement by September 2025.

# Statement of Ambition

As signatories to the Climate Leaders Coalition, we are committed to working together to accelerate our transition towards a zero-carbon and climate resilient future where Aotearoa, and all New Zealanders, can thrive.

We honour the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi and play our part in supporting Aotearoa's domestic and international climate commitments by:

- Reducing our own emissions and leading the way on climate adaptation and a just transition;
- Creating momentum that influences all businesses to act on climate change, and providing peer-to-peer support that enables this; and
- Promoting cross-party support for effective policy that provides the certainty that businesses and communities need to invest and transform.

As a signatory to the Coalition, our businesses are holding each other accountable for:

- **Measuring our emissions**, having them independently verified, **and reporting them publicly**;
- **Adopting short- and long-term gross absolute science aligned targets for scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions to support the delivery of substantial reductions needed to limit future warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius**;
- **Assessing climate change risks** and opportunities (including in the value chain), setting objectives and/or target(s) to reduce these risks and maximise opportunities, **and publicly disclosing them**;
- **Proactively enabling our employees**, board members, customers, **and suppliers to reduce their emissions** and reduce their climate change risks;
- Embedding plans within our businesses to accelerate climate action across mitigation, adaptation, and transition, and incorporate te ao Māori perspectives;
- Preparing for the next frontier of climate action, including considering the assessment of nature-based risks and long-term climate positive targets.



# Focus areas for 2023/24

## Internal focus areas:

### Supporting signatories to meet the Statement of Ambition

A key focus for the Coalition is on supporting signatories to meet the Statement of Ambition requirements.

Our key workstreams to support this are:

#### Masterclass series

We will continue to run these consistently well-attended monthly online masterclasses which are focussed on topics that enable signatories to build capability, support achievement of the Statement of Ambition requirements and advance signatories' climate action.

#### Mentoring programme

We will continue to run twice yearly intakes for our business-to-business mentoring programme which allows for peer-to-peer support. This opt-in programme enables signatories to mentor or be mentored by another signatory on areas to advance their organisation's climate action, as well as their individual capability.

#### Networking

With Covid gathering restrictions now a thing of the past, we are enjoying the opportunity to bring our signatories together in person. As well as hosting several major annual events, a focus for the year ahead is facilitating smaller in-person networking events across the country. We will also continue to facilitate informal networking opportunities across our signatory base to help signatories achieve the Statement of Ambition.

#### Adaptation working group

CLC signatories will continue to participate in the Sustainable Business Council's Adaptation Working Group. The group is co-chaired by IAG and brings together a number of organisations who are working to define what adaptation means for business, raise the profile of business adaptation, and increase adaptation capability across the private sector.

## External focus areas:

### Championing our signatories' climate action

With many New Zealand businesses still to start their climate action journeys, the Coalition continues to play a role as a leadership beacon for business action on climate change. With increasing consumer concern about climate change, there is also growing appetite for the Coalition to showcase tangible examples of what climate action looks like through media, social media and website channels. This culminates in our annual Snapshot Report released in November which transparently demonstrates signatory progress individually and collectively on meeting the Coalition's Statement of Ambition.

### Advocating for effective climate change policy

In partnership with the Sustainable Business Council, government advocacy will continue to be a priority for the Coalition in the coming year, with a General Election due in October 2023. Other major advocacy efforts will be focussed around the Government's second Emissions Reduction Plan and other climate mitigation related work.

### 15th annual Climate Change and Business Conference

CLC will once again partner with the Environmental Defence Society and the Sustainable Business Council to deliver the 15th annual Climate Change and Business Conference. The September 2023 event will continue to build on last year's success, which saw the host partners deliver the largest conference in the event's history





## About us

Formed in 2018, the Climate Leaders Coalition has a mission of having New Zealand business CEOs leading the response to climate change through collective, transparent and meaningful action on mitigation and adaptation.

We are proud to be a CEO-led leadership beacon for business action on climate change in the political and public arenas. Our collective 2025 vision is that New Zealand's businesses are influencing climate action in their value chains, creating momentum so other businesses must act on climate change, and maintaining pressure on all political parties to adopt policies and make investments that enable the transition to a zero-carbon and climate resilient economy.

By joining the Coalition, each signatory commits to taking climate action as outlined in the Coalition's Statement of Ambition. The Coalition publishes an annual snapshot report to hold one another to account for delivering on the Statement and reducing our emissions.

The Coalition's work is overseen by a CEO Steering Group and headed by a CEO convenor. The Sustainable Business Council provides secretariat support for the Coalition.

## Join us

Any organisation can join the Coalition provided they are meeting the minimum requirements outlined in our Statement of Ambition and working to meet the full Statement by September 2025.

[info@climateleaderscoalition.org.nz](mailto:info@climateleaderscoalition.org.nz)

[www.climateleaderscoalition.org.nz](http://www.climateleaderscoalition.org.nz)

“Being a member of CLC has ensured that we continue committing publicly to appropriate targets and delivering on our change. This hasn't necessarily been easy with changing priorities – but the CLC has meant we have come back to sustainability as part of our compass for true north.”

Lincoln Watson, CEO of ESP

## CEO Steering Group



**Convenor Jolie Hodson**  
Spark CEO



**Malcolm Johns**  
Genesis Energy CEO



**Amanda Whiting**  
IAG CEO



**Gareth Marriott**  
OCS NZ CEO



**Lindis Jones**  
Z Energy CEO



**Barbara Nebel**  
thinkstep-anz CEO



**David Walsh**  
NZ Post CEO



**Neeraj Lala**  
Toyota New Zealand CEO

# Our signatories





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ON A MISSION TO REDUCE  
EMISSIONS IN NEW ZEALAND

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