

The logo for the Sustainable Business Council, featuring the text "Sustainable Business Council" in a white sans-serif font, with a green arrow graphic pointing to the right.

 wbcSD Global Network Partner

Snapshot 2022-2023

Mobilising New Zealand's most ambitious businesses to build a thriving and sustainable future for all

We are SBC



Message from Mike Burrell, Executive Director SBC and Gareth Marriott, Chair SBC Advisory Board

We are proud to be able to present to you this 2022-23 Snapshot Report.

The results reflect not only the ongoing deep commitment of our members to act on securing a sustainable future, but also the positive impact we continue to have by working collectively across the membership.

The partnerships, collaborations and connections showcased in this year's Snapshot illustrate how together we can shift the dial on securing a low emissions and climate-resilient future for New Zealand, where business, nature, and people, can thrive.

The official launch of AgriZero^{NZ}, a public private Joint Venture, grown from collaboration facilitated by SBC is a powerful example of just that. This kind of collective high impact work is something we are seeking to replicate with the next phase of our work to decarbonise heavy freight, which kicked off this last year.

Focus on areas of high impact such as these will remain critical for us as we continue to bring to life our refreshed Strategy, which was also delivered in this past year, reflecting the rapidly change context and new opportunities in sustainability that have eventuated as a result.

In the build-up to a general election this refreshed focus has been particularly important. Alongside the Climate Leaders Coalition, our collective advocacy voice has continued to play a critical role in signalling what we need from government to ensure business has the certainty and confidence required to continue to invest in the transition opportunities before them. The delivery of our Pre-election Politics Priorities Paper sets out exactly what we need to see from whoever makes up the incoming Government.

In a post-COVID world, we have been delighted to once again be able to regularly bring our people together for events and engagements which showcase and amplify the sustainability leadership role our members continue to take. In partnership with the Climate Leaders Coalition and Environmental Defence Society we are proud to have delivered the largest Climate Change and Business Conference in the event's 14-year history, with the support and involvement of many of our members.

Across all this work we have maintained our sharp focus on people, launching the next phase of our approach to strengthening the S in ESG and beginning to explore what that means for the role SBC has to play.

We would like to thank our SBC Advisory Board for the impact they continue to have and the important guidance and leadership role they provide to the organisation.

We would also like to thank you all for your valued contributions and the significant role you have each played in bringing all this work to life.

You, our members, are the heart of SBC – and we should all be very proud of what we have achieved together in the last year.



We are SBC



LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABILITY

Supporting members to be ambitious on sustainability and encouraging other businesses to go further.

THRIVING PEOPLE

Members are contributing to a just transition and acting on the most material issues facing society.

ACTION ON CLIMATE AND NATURE

Accelerating the transition to a future that is zero emissions, resilient, and nature regenerative.



41% of New Zealand's GDP
(33%, 2022)



286,639 full-time jobs
(187,957, 2022)



\$158 billion collective turnover
(\$118b, 2022)



15% of New Zealand's labour force (10%, 2022)



139 members (130, 2022)



SBC Highlights 2022-23

- Continuing to build momentum around a strong programme of climate action advocacy to **provide a collective and trusted voice** for our members through engagement with all political parties, and a range of government agencies ahead of a General Election.
- Launch of AgriZero^{NZ} at the 2023 Field Days, a private-public joint venture based on a **collaboration facilitated by SBC** between six primary sector SBC members and the Ministry of Primary Industries.
- Delivery of the **largest ever Climate Change and Business Conference**, in partnership with the Environmental Defence Society and Climate Leaders Coalition.
- **Partnering with Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport** to deliver a feasibility study into developing a New Zealand-wide mechanism to assist in decarbonising the heavy transport sector.
- **Largest cohort to date** for the Sustainability Leadership Programme, with 50 participants in the 2022 programme
- Launching THRIVE, SBC's **Future Work ecosystem pilot** alongside members NZ Post and NZ Steel, in partnership with FutureWork Studio.
- Continued growth of membership reaching **139 members**.
- **1,611 touch points with members** across all consultations, events, trainings, webinars and workshops.

“SBC is the leading community of practice for sustainability in New Zealand. A key facilitator for collaboration across various sectors and along supply chains.” *Member Survey, 2023*





ACTION ON CLIMATE AND NATURE

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Continuing to build momentum around a strong programme of climate action advocacy to provide a collective and trusted voice for our members

- Responding to the release of the country's first National Adaptation Plan.
- Delivery to all political parties of a pre-election policy priorities briefing paper outlining top 10 key recommendations for an incoming Government to advance a net-zero and climate-resilient future.
- Submission in response to the Climate Change Commission's consultation on its draft advice to Government on the second emissions reduction plan.
- Ongoing public support of investment via the Government Investment in Decarbonising Industry (GIDI) fund, including the announcement of co-funding the installation of an Electric Arc Furnace at the NZ Steel's Glenbrook steel factory.
- Submission in response to the Ministry of Transport's (in partnership with the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment) consultation on the Government's national electric vehicle charging infrastructure system.
- We continued to work closely with the Climate Leaders Coalition across all our advocacy efforts to provide a joint trusted voice for climate action.

- Launch of AgriZero^{NZ} at the 2023 Field Days. This was based on a collaboration facilitated by SBC between six primary sector SBC members and the Ministry of Primary Industries. It led to the establishment of a public-private joint venture worth \$172 million to accelerate the reduction of agriculture emissions (including methane) through international partnerships.

'The SBC was instrumental in the creation of AgriZero^{NZ} – from the initial concept, through to facilitating critical collaboration and bringing together the private sector shareholders, and finally taking the proposal to government. As a result, we now have a JV that is not only working to solve the emissions challenge for our pasture-based farmers, but also has potential to be the world leader in commercialising emissions-reduction solutions for pasture-based farmers that can be sold in New Zealand and globally'. Wayne McNee, AgriZero^{NZ} Executive Director

- Launch of 3 collaborative workstreams focused on decarbonising heavy freight. Initiation of a concept feasibility study into a Renewable (Low-Carbon) Freight Certificate mechanism (funded in partnership with Te Manatū Waka Ministry of Transport).

- Launch of a Climate-related Disclosure Readiness Workshop Series in partnership with Deloitte, KPMG and Toitū Envirocare, involving 27 participants from 17 member organisations.
- Supporting SBC members to engage in COP27 in Sharm El Sheik, Egypt – sharing insights directly from the action on the ground, in addition to supporting domestic events being held simultaneously back home. Building networks, advocating for an effective global response to climate change, and foreshadowing the business focus of COP28 in Dubai.
- Building member capability in emerging areas such as adaptation (through continuation of the SBC/IAG member-led Adaptation Working Group); and the Masterclass series in partnership with the Climate Leaders Coalition.
- 5 Clean Car Accelerator and 3 Adaptation Working Group engagements held involving 88 people across 45 members.
- Supporting delivery of the Climate Leaders Coalition's programme of work and signatories continued transparent reporting on progress.
- Delivery of The Business of Nature: *Why Papatūānuku needs to be our CEO* webinar, in conjunction with Lyttleton Port and Nature Positive, and accompanying blog to begin to explore the role of business in relation to nature.



LEADERSHIP IN SUSTAINABILITY

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Delivery of the largest ever Climate Change & Business Conference, in partnership with the Environmental Defence Society and Climate Leaders Coalition

- More than 550 in-person attendees.
- An additional 280 attending online.
- Delegate representation from 140 companies, of which 80 were SBC members.
- Sponsored by 43 businesses, of which 29 were SBC members.
- A programme comprising of 80 speakers, 35 of which came from SBC members.
- Represented the largest event in the conference's 14-year history.

"The context provided from different perspectives with the panels was really informative. The different business and industry perspectives, the discussions and the opportunities highlighted were tangible and practical examples of what we could go away and focus on."

Climate Change & Business Conference delegate, 2022

- Delivery of a refreshed SBC Strategy for the next five years to reflect our changing context; progress on our goals; and the new opportunities in sustainability which have eventuated.
- Refreshed focus on supporting members with both baseline leadership requirements of ESG, as well as fostering collective leadership of our members in high impact areas (noted previously), where are working to drive systems change and shift the dial on securing a more sustainable Aotearoa.
- Release of five sustainability fundamentals toolkits (fairer wages, pay parity, parental leave, materiality, reporting).
- 300+ downloads of consumer insights report Better Futures (with Kantar) and 252 downloads of the Sustainability Professionals Research report (with AUT, Oxygen Consulting and SBN), with 298 attendees across the two launch events.
- In-person launch of the annual CFO survey snapshot (with Deloitte and Toitū Tahu) across three locations, Auckland, Wellington, and Christchurch, with 130 attendees across the three events.
- Over 45 participants for our 2022/23 Sustainability Leadership Programme intake, in partnership with Catapult, and over 120 graduates of the Deloitte/SBC Climate Risk programme for Chief Financial Officers since 2019.
- 242 participants took part in 22 sustainability focused courses and workshops as part of BusinessNZ and SBC's support to smaller businesses to develop and embed sustainability in their ways of working.
- Delivery of BusinessNZ Networks All Things carbon webinar series, in partnership with SBC member and CLC signatory organisations DETA, Toitū Envirocare, Thinkstep and Ekos.
- Release of a suite of resources for Directors in partnership with ChapterZero, including toolkits on addressing climate change at the Board room table and on structuring Boards to take effective action.
- SBC Spotlight Series events enabled members to showcase and explore new or interesting work going on across the membership. We have heard from Profile Group, The Warehouse Group, EY, CHEP, DLA Piper, Upparel, ESP, Transpower, Beca and AIA New Zealand.
- 6 engagements held across two Communities of Practice (Procurement and Communication Marketing & Brand), involving 116 participants from across 48 members.

Members' overall satisfaction with SBC's work. On a scale of 1 to 5: 100% rated 3 or above, 83% rated 4 or 5

Member Survey, 2023



THRIVING PEOPLE

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

Launching the THRIVE Future Work ecosystem pilot

THRIVE provides SBC members with a collaborative approach to build future ready skills workforce and ways of working that:

- Improves visibility and mobility of current and future skills.
- Improves skills utilisation across workforces by connecting people with broader opportunities.
- Closes skills gaps through proactive transition planning and learning in the flow of work.

Over the course of FY 22-23 we:

- Completed the co-design of the Future Skills collaboration and ecosystem with members and partners.
- Launched the 12-month pilot of the ecosystem, which is due to finish in FY2024.
- Secured involvement from three members (representing a collective workforce of 6,650 workers), with six more businesses expressing interest.
- Achieved 80 employees actively participating in the Thrive ecosystem after only three months.

- Achieved all priorities set out by the previous Thriving People programme of work and began the process of developing the next phase of the work programme to focus and strengthen our strategy delivery, including strengthening the S in ESG.
- Continued to build a growing community of learning and shared good practice on material social sustainability issues, such as youth employment, diversity in leadership and lifting the living standards of employees through fairer wages and pay parity. This network has now reached more than 120 leaders, including HR directors, people leaders, Diversity and Inclusion champions and sustainability leaders, reflecting how social sustainability is an increasing priority for the business agenda.
- Advocated in our pre-election policy priorities paper for the implementation of a just transition with the incoming government.
- Delivered six webinar sessions on social sustainability, covering topics including modern slavery, mental wellbeing, the environment and our health, moving beyond diversity, just transitions and more.
- Contributed to the Motu-led, Ministry of Business Innovation and Employment funded, *Guide to just transitions for communities in Aotearoa New Zealand*.



“It’s an extension of my work family and aligns perfectly with what we’re trying to achieve as a business. I refer companies to SBC whenever I can.”

Member Survey, 2023

Supporting our members

- Delivery of the largest ever Climate Change and Business Conference, in partnership with the Environmental Defence Society and Climate Leaders Coalition, involving **550 in-person attendees** and an additional **280 virtual attendees**.
- **46 issues of Pānui delivered**, with an 18% increase in subscribers
- **878 member stories** and events published in Pānui with an average of 19 members showcased
- **135 members** showcased in Pānui
- **144 LinkedIn posts** showcasing members
- **20 blogs** released
- **7 episodes** of SBC Talks Tools created
- **36 virtual events**, workshops and capability/training events and 4 in person networking opportunities
- **8 consultation workshops** held to input into the joint Pre-Election Policy Priorities Paper and the Climate Change Commission's draft advice to Government on the second emissions reduction plan, representing 77 member organisations.
- **76 attendees** to the 2022 in person Annual Council Meeting.
- **75 attendees** to the 2023 in person Welcome Back event.



48 SBC Net Promoter Score (NPS)

(Up 3 points on last year) In New Zealand 30 is considered a good target and 50 is excellent.



Extending our reach

- **46% growth** in our LinkedIn following, increasing by 3,099 followers
- **360% year-on-year growth** in LinkedIn engagement, with over 6,000 engagements
- **5,200 page views**, increasing over 500% from FY22
- **237 posts** in 365 days
- **5,600 likes, 182 comments and 311 shares**

“SBC provides the opportunity to be part of a community of businesses taking meaningful action on sustainability. The range and quality of your webinars and workshops is very good and I find them exceedingly useful. Thanks for the mahi!”
Member survey, 2022



In the media

- **70 SBC related media mentions**, including interviews, feature pieces and opinion editorials.
- SBC comment sought in response to a range of domestic news, including the release of the country's first National Adaptation Plan, delivery of the 2022 Climate Change & Business Conference, opportunities to 'green' Aotearoa New Zealand's economy, business resilience, the 'greening' of politics, results of Better Futures 2023, pre-election policy priorities, NZ Steel's Glenbrook announcement, and the business case for sustainability.
- **10 media statements** released.

"It can be difficult for businesses, no matter what size or industry, to keep up with the evolving best practices in relation to sustainability. SBC provides a valuable service though its clear focus. It helps lift businesses behavior individually and collectively and that should be greatly appreciated by anyone who cares about the future."

Member survey, 2023

Climate mitigation matters says big business

"And then privately we'll be saying to politicians of all persuasions: 'For goodness sake, put your big kids' trousers on and make this stuff happen because, you know, we've waited 30 years. And we don't have time any more.'"

- Mike Burrell, Sustainable Business Council

Why taking climate action sooner rather than later is good for business

As more and more Kiwis make the shift to a sustainable approach to living. Climate Leaders Coalition Signatory, the New Zealand Green Building Council (NZGBC), and the Sustainable Business Council (SBC) reflect on the difference sustainable homes can make to the quality of life, energy and emissions, and a home's value.

Never be a cheaper time to abate carbon than right now - Sustainable Business Council

The Sustainable Business Council said it was a smart move for the government to partner with NZ steel to reduce emissions. Executive director Mike Burrell said the plan will have a huge impact on New Zealand's ability to deliver emissions reductions.

Give us certainty, sustainable business leaders plead after climate assessment

Olivia Wannan · 05:00, Apr 06 2023



Business hopes for more political certainty about climate change

More certainty will give businesses the confidence to invest at scale.



Sustainable Business Council executive director Mike Burrell and Climate Leaders' Coalition steering group member Barbara Nebel speak with Brent Edwards.

Business hopes for more political certainty about climate change

More certainty will give businesses the confidence to invest at scale.

What business wants from the government on climate change

Climate crisis can be green opportunity

Burrell said the world was shifting toward what's called "stakeholder capitalism", where corporations served the interests of all of their stakeholders to deliver long-term value for their shareholders.

"And it's putting those companies who are shifting ahead of the curve in terms of their competitive advantage."

Our members in action

Leading out on sustainability

Our members are raising the ceiling of sustainable leadership in New Zealand. New Zealand Steel, with support from other members Contact Energy and Beca, is leading the way in reducing industrial emissions through its new electric arc furnace, a project that will singlehandedly reduce Aotearoa New Zealand's emissions by 1%. Spark and thinkstep-anz collaborated on ground-breaking research showing digital technology can support annual emissions reductions equivalent to 42% of the reductions required to meet our 2030 targets.

Taking action on climate

Our members continue to chart new territory in reducing their emissions, as well as those of their people and customers. HW Richardson Group is transitioning its fleet of 1,300 vehicles to green hydrogen, with the aim of having its first 10 dual-fuel hydrogen trucks on the road by 2024. A number of members are exploring biomass as an alternative fuel source, including Genesis at its Huntly Power Station, Te Whatu Ora in its hospital boilers (with support from Naylor Love), and Fonterra for dairy processing. Members, including Z Energy, New Zealand Post, Mitre 10, Ports of Auckland, Christchurch Airport, Meridian, and Ngāi Tahu, have also been leading the way on the adoption and enablement of vehicle electrification around the motu. Air New Zealand has also been working hard towards launching zero emissions aircraft, including through the exploration of hydrogen opportunities with Hiringa Energy and Christchurch Airport.

Keeping people at the heart

Our members recognise the criticality of ensuring we keep people at the heart of the transition to a zero-carbon and climate resilient future. New Zealand Post and New Zealand Steel are the first members to join SBC's future work ecosystem pilot, called THRIVE, which provides a platform for businesses to collaborate in making sure no one gets left behind in a changing world of work. Increasingly, members such as Mercury, Suncorp and Beca are refreshing their leave policies to enable better wellbeing amongst their people, including parental and gender affirmation leave allowances. SkyCity's Project Nikau aims to provide youths who are entering the workforce with a clear career pathway, while Downer's Te Ara Whanake Māori Leadership Programme is designed to enhance Māori representation at all levels of leadership.



Powering the transition to renewables

Our members are leading the way in establishing new renewable energy opportunities in Aotearoa New Zealand. In 2023, Mercury cut the ribbon on its Turitea (Manawatū) wind farm, the biggest in the country, and is supporting other members, such as Ryman Healthcare, to buy renewable energy in a more accessible way. Meridian’s Ruakākā Energy Park, set to open in 2024, will contain the country’s first large-scale grid battery, as well as a grid-scale solar farm. In Canterbury, Genesis has purchased land for another solar project, while Christchurch Airport and Contact have partnered to begin delivering Kōwhai Park, a renewable energy park with a solar farm that will generate enough to power 30,000 homes.

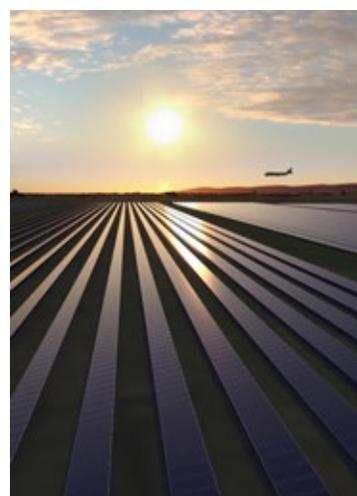
Financing the transition

Our banking and finance members are playing a crucial role in helping businesses access the funds necessary to transition Aotearoa New Zealand to a low carbon economy. Over the past year, our three member banks have each launched new sustainability loans, including BNZ’s Green Business Loan for agribusinesses, ASB’s Business Sustainability Loan, and Westpac’s Sustainable Farm and Sustainable Business Loans. Alongside member law firms Anderson Lloyd, Chapman Tripp and DLA Piper, New Zealand Green Investment Finance launched the Climate Clause Bank, designed to help businesses embed climate clauses into their contracts. In the last year, SBC member AMP became the first KiwiSaver provider to sign up to the Science-Based Targets Initiative (SBTi), and Westpac released its Access to Banking in Aotearoa report, which aims to shed light on inequalities in access to banking and the barriers getting in the way.

Full coverage of the ongoing impact SBC members are having through their sustainability efforts, is captured and celebrated in our [weekly Pānui newsletter](#).

“SBC expects members to actually walk the talk, so it says something about those organisations that make the commitment/effort to participate in SBC.”

Member Survey, 2023



Businesses from all sectors, ambitious for a sustainable New Zealand



Financials

30 June 2023

Income:	2,752,825
Salaries:	1,656,517
Projects:	443,101
Consultants:	62,719
Administration:	223,474
Events & Engagement:	178,256
Research & Communications:	24,250
Total Expenditure:	2,588,317

Member satisfaction with the implementation of each of our 3 pillars of work had an average rating of above 4 (out of 5).

Member Survey, 2023



Our advisory board 2022/2023



Gareth Marriot
SBC Chair
Chief Executive Officer
OCS Australia and New Zealand



Dean Fraser
General Manager Transformation
Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu



Simon Tucker
Director of Global Sustainability, Stakeholder Affairs and Trade
Fonterra



Alice Andrew
Technical Director
4Sight Consulting –
Part of SLR



Kirk Hope
Chief Executive Officer
BusinessNZ



Claire Walker
SBC Deputy Chair
Chief People Officer
Genesis Energy



Chris Aughton
Chief Executive Officer
Enviro NZ Limited



Neeraj Lala
Chief Executive Officer
Toyota



Gerri Ward
SBC Deputy Chair
Director Sustainability
EY



Angela Busby
Chief Strategy Officer
AIA New Zealand



David Morgan
Chief Operations
Integrity & Safety Officer/
Chief Pilot Air New Zealand



Amanda Whiting
Chief Executive Officer
IAG



David Bennattar
Chief Sustainability Officer
The Warehouse Group



Laura Scampion
Country Managing Partner
DLA Piper New Zealand

About us

The Sustainable Business Council (SBC) is a CEO-led membership organisation with around 140 businesses from all sectors, ambitious for a sustainable New Zealand.

Our vision is a New Zealand where business, people and nature thrive together, and we actively work to fulfil our purpose of mobilising New Zealand's most ambitious businesses to build thriving and sustainable future for all. Our network gives our members unparalleled influence and empowers them to take large-scale collective action. SBC connects member businesses, partners, and sectors to create

impact that no single business could achieve alone.

We hold our members to account by asking them to fulfil member commitments and deliver impact by championing our members to be at the leading edge of sustainability. In doing so, we inspire other businesses to take action.

Join us

SBC membership is ideal for organisations seeking to improve their sustainability performance or wanting access to collaborating with and insights from other businesses.

You can contact SBC at any time to ask about membership.

sbc@businessnz.org.nz

www.sbc.org.nz



SBC is a division of BusinessNZ, which is CarboNZero™ certified.

Layout by Tahi Design



“SBC is a very professionally run organisation with a quality membership base that enables strong collaboration.”

Member Survey, 2023