Neuadd Dyfi

Signposting and Recommendations

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Neuadd Dyfi Signposting and Recommendations

Introduction

Neuadd Dyfi have partnered with Cwmpas to develop an Environmental Policy, Eco-Code, and Sustainability Action Plan. Following the completion of the Sustainability Audit, undertaken on 08/02/2023, a number of recommendations have been developed and incorporated within the Sustainability Action Plan. The aim of this document is to signpost areas of further research and consideration.

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Carbon Footprint

One of actions of the Sustainability Action Plan is to calculate the carbon footprint of Neuadd Dyfi.

Carbon footprinting is the process of measuring the amount of greenhouse gases, primarily carbon dioxide, emitted by an individual, organisation, or product, in order to understand and manage their impact on the environment. This measurement is usually expressed in units of carbon dioxide equivalents (CO2e). The goal of carbon footprinting is to identify sources of emissions, so that they can be reduced or offset. This is often used as a tool for organisations and individuals to evaluate and reduce their impact on the environment and climate change and to work towards becoming net zero.

To calculate the carbon footprint of Neuadd Dyfi, the organisation would typically need to gather data on the emissions from various sources – this is an iterative process and should start with energy use (electricity and gas). Other sources of emissions for the organization include, but not limited to:

1. Energy use: This includes emissions from electricity and heating, and transportation fuel consumption.
2. Waste: This includes indirect emissions from the disposal of waste, such as methane emissions from landfills.
3. Business travel: This includes emissions from air, rail, and road travel for business purposes.

Once you have gathered data on emissions from these sources, you can use a calculation tool, such as the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (https://ghgprotocol.org/corporate-standard), to convert the emissions data into CO2e. The final calculation will be the total emissions from these sources, which represents the organization's carbon footprint.

There are several free resources available online for calculating municipal and commercial carbon footprints. One highly accessible available for consideration is the free carbon calculator (https://www.carbonfootprint.com/calculator.aspx) provided by Carbon Footprint Ltd.

Following the modelling of the carbon footprint, the organisation should assess options to reduce emissions. As a last resort, the residual emissions can be offset through a variety of means. Carbon Footprint provides Verified Carbon Standard certified offsetting purchase options, including tree planting in Wales. To reiterate, offsetting should be considered as a last resort, and Neuadd Dyfi should consider other approaches to reduce carbon emissions – such as public transport, active travel, and energy efficient devices.

Green Energy Supplier

In the mid-long-term Neuadd Dyfi are seeking to move towards a solely renewable energy provider for the headquarter moving away from British Gas.

Three of the greenest energy suppliers have been selected. The list of energy suppliers is not intended to be an exhaustive list of suppliers, and instead should be considered as a foundation for further research.

Green Energy UK

Green Energy UK offer 100% green gas as well as green electricity. Their renewable sources are hydro, solar and wind. Unlike other green energy suppliers, who offset their gas emissions, Green Energy UK produces all of the gas it provides to customers from anaerobic digestion. Trust Pilot ranks Green Energy UK at 4.5, with excellent customer service and a smooth transition for those switching over.

Ecotricity

Ecotricity guarantee 100% green electricity and carbon neutral green gas. Their renewable sources are wind, solar and hydro. Their profits are invested into further renewable projects such as wind and solar farms. Ecotricity is the only energy company to get a stamp of approval from the Vegan Society. In terms of ethical this may be the energy company for you as they also fund and support anti fracking campaigners. In 2020 they were awarded the title as one of the greenest energy suppliers in the UK by 'Which?'.

Octopus Energy

Octopus Energy supply their customers with 100% renewable energy only. Octopus Energy won 1st place in the 2019 Which? survey as a recommended supplier. They offer a tariff with 100% renewable electricity and carbon offsetting for gas, a tariff that includes perks for electric vehicle drivers as well as a tariff that tracks wholesale energy prices with customers able to view daily costs. Octopus has strong green credentials with a policy of investing into sustainability projects and research. They promise that any carbon involved in the production of your gas will be offset.