

[More than 100 business and finance leaders urge new Prime Minister to strengthen economy by prioritising response to climate and nature crises](#)

Business quotes on the BGA's letter to the new PM

Jo Bacon, Managing Partner, Allies and Morrison LLP, said:

“The climate emergency demands a paradigm shift in our everyday lives and all the work of the construction and built environment industries. In an unequal world our next Prime Minister should support, facilitate and prioritise statutory frameworks as well as international exchange for future sustainable living, net zero construction and materials. Huge recognition and support from all generations would follow such leadership.”

Stephen Woodford, Chief Executive, Advertising Association, said:

“As a key engine of the economy, the advertising industry is ready to support the UK's transition to net zero. We are changing our production and distribution operations to be more sustainable and ensuring all advertising adheres to the clear rules set by the Advertising Standard Association around the avoidance of misleading environmental claims. Clear guidance and direction from government can only help to accelerate this shift.”

John Boumphrey, VP Country Manager UK, Amazon, said:

“Amazon is committed to being net-zero carbon across our operations by 2040. Decarbonising our economy is good for our business, our communities and the planet. Achieving net-zero carbon will require clear signals from our new Prime Minister Liz Truss, that addressing climate change remains a priority for the government, working with businesses to drive innovation and investment.”

Amanda Fisher, CEO, Amey, said:

“We must find ways to work, that re-use materials, achieve energy efficiency, and restore and regenerate our planet by default. As a strategic supplier to Government, and with capabilities from design to delivery across transport and the built environment we are well placed to speed up the transition to Net Zero and build a resilient UK economy. We call on Government for a bold and coherent plan to deliver on targets that will protect and restore our planet, and deliver a net zero economy.”

Gregory Borel, Managing Partner, Ampersand Partners, said:

“Net Zero is now a mainstream strategic reality for businesses around the world. Governments not pursuing the opportunity in leading the transition would commit a great sin towards their economies and communities as well as future generations.”

Stuart McLachlan, CEO, Anthesis Group, said:

“Motivated by impact, Anthesis empowers and activates organisations and communities to address the most significant transformational change project the world will have experienced. Anthesis trusts the new UK Prime Minister to prioritise protecting and restoring nature and delivering a net zero economy to accelerate achieving UK targets.”

David Partridge, Chairman, Argent LLP, said:

“It is essential that the new Prime Minister ensures that the government's response to easing the cost of living crisis and to continuing the good work of Levelling Up across the UK is firmly founded on the principles of reducing our impact on Climate Change and harming the natural world.”

Nigel Tonks, Sustainable Development Director UKIMEA, Arup, said:

“Energy efficiency policy and Whole Life Carbon regulation for the built environment is urgently needed to meet UK climate change commitments and vitally, to support people through the cost of living crisis and challenging times ahead.”

Mike McNicholas, Managing Director Infrastructure UK & Europe, Atkins, said:

“Ambitious net zero targets won’t be met without credible policies that enable engineers to develop strategies for delivery and detailed implementation plans. And it’s these same policies that will also provide the industry with the clarity and confidence to invest in skills, technology and innovation as the UK looks to grow its economy while leading the transition to clean energy and decarbonised infrastructure.”

Peter Herweck, CEO, AVEVA, said:

“At AVEVA, we are committed to playing our part to drive decarbonisation and accelerate the UK’s net zero economy. Our industrial software connects businesses with trusted information and insights, sparking ingenuity to drive responsible use of the world’s resources. We recognize that partnership between business and government is crucial to building a robust plan, with clear targets and a roadmap for delivery against them.”

John Wilkinson, COO, BAM UK & Ireland, said:

“As a major tier 1 contractor, we recognise that our business and our sector has a huge role to play in realising more sustainable outcomes which eliminate carbon emissions and enhance the natural environment. Government has a huge role to play in enabling contractors and businesses generally to make the necessary investments to deliver on these more sustainable outcomes. But to date there has been little from Government to direct business towards common approaches that work and are cost effective and instead have relegated the implementation of solutions and actions to market forces. This is causing a disjointed approach to the challenges we face and is slowing change to a snail’s pace. Therefore we would urge government to take action now in line with this letter.”

Sarah Pritchard, UK Managing Director, Buro Happold, said:

“Climate change is without doubt one of the greatest challenges we face in the 21st Century. What we do today will impact the quality of all our lives and the health of our planet for decades to come. Extraordinary times call for exceptional conviction and tenacity. At Buro Happold, we are determined to minimise the impact of the built environment on the climate and maximise the opportunities to deliver a net zero future. At the same time, we must address the escalation in energy prices, do more – much more – to support biodiversity and the development and deployment of safe, clean energies, and – not least – sure up sustainable, economic growth.”

Martin Garratt, CEO, Cambridge Cleantech, said:

“Cambridge Cleantech is the UK’s longest standing cleantech sector membership organisation and we are responding to global sustainability challenges whilst expanding and creating high value jobs in the UK clean growth economy. The new Prime Minister should prioritise net zero and nature restoration for our country to meet our global obligations and ensure a thriving clean growth economy.”

Ciaran Bird, Divisional President, Advisory Services, CEO UK & Ireland, CBRE, said:

“CBRE supports this letter from the UK Business Group Alliance for Net Zero and the call for clarity and strong leadership from government when it comes to supporting and implementing policies to enable the UK’s transition to a net zero economy.”

Iggy Bassi, Founder & CEO, Cervest, said:

“Climate change threatens our social, economic and environmental security; it costs us billions today and trillions tomorrow. Net Zero is essential to stabilise our future climate, but immediate action on physical risk is required. We must also focus on adaptation of the assets we all depend on - buildings, power plants, factories, transport networks, and the natural environment.”

Kirstie Donnelly, CEO, City & Guilds, said:

“Combatting the devastating effects of climate change is a responsibility that we all share and we stand united in calling on the UK Government to urgently prioritise climate action. We recognise at City & Guilds that not only can we reduce our negative impacts on the planet, but that we have a responsibility and a role to play in increasing our positive impacts by developing and delivering the skills needed to live and work more sustainably. We are setting ambitious net zero targets for our own organisation but also helping people transition into green jobs by developing the skills needed to deliver the transition to low-cost clean energy and increased energy efficiency of our homes and businesses. Only by central and local Governments working together with employers and educators can we make the essential changes needed to create a sustainable society.”

Stephen O’Malley, Chief Executive, Civic Engineers, said:

“If we are really going to address the climate emergency and attempt to repair some of the damage done, net zero must be prioritised. There needs to be regulation change so nature based solutions and climate resilience are not a choice, they are a given. They have to be the cornerstones of all decisions that are made moving forward, we cannot afford to ignore this.”

Dean Frost, Managing Director, Clade Engineering Systems Ltd, said:

“Clade Engineering is fully supportive of the new Prime Minister pressing ahead with the UK's net zero plans and the restoration of our natural environment. At a time when the pressure on the natural world is deepening and climate change events are commonplace we expect our government to lead in Europe and beyond, this in order to reverse the damaging climate change trends whilst building a resilient UK economy.”

Alison Heppenstall, Executive Director, Climate Action for Associations, said:

“On behalf of Climate Action for Associations and industry trade bodies in UK and internationally, we call on the new Prime Minister to take proactive leadership and recognize the link between building a resilient UK economy and addressing climate action. With the High Court ruling out UK's Net Zero Strategy unlawful, it is crucial for the Prime Minister to cement and enforce UK's decarbonization and climate resilience strategy with zero time to waste.”

Stephen Moorhouse, General Manager, Great Britain, Coca-Cola Europacific Partners, said:

"As businesses, we are committed to playing our part in tackling the climate crisis and we welcome strong political leadership in this space as we believe this is critical in ensuring our economy transitions towards net zero.

Tim Attwood, Managing Director, Conisbee, said:

“Tackling climate change is as urgent an issue as the cost of living crises and energy security risk. Prioritising net zero and the restoration of nature is the only sustainable and effective way to achieve these aims as well as supporting economic growth and giving the country common purpose.”

Dougie Sutherland, CEO, Cory Group, said:

“The appointment of a new Prime Minister's is another critical juncture for the UK's climate ambitions. This is a significant moment to build on the work done so far - honouring existing commitments and moving as fast as possible to restore nature and deliver a net zero economy.”

David Morley, Founding Partner, David Morley Architects, said:

“Congratulations to our new Prime Minister - you now have a superb opportunity to tackle the cost of living crisis by reducing energy demand and speeding up the transition to UK based renewable resources. This must be a 'win win' because it tackles two extraordinarily urgent needs.”

Will Gardiner, Group CEO, Drax, said:

“Abandoning or delaying net zero will increase the UK’s dependence on imported fossil fuels, deepening the cost-of-living crisis and weakening our energy security. At Drax, we are progressing plans to deliver the world’s largest carbon capture in power project and the country’s first new long-duration electricity storage project in a generation. By supporting innovative green projects like these, the UK can ensure more homegrown renewable power comes onto the grid to cut fuel bills and carbon emissions in the years ahead.”

Sir Nigel Knowles, CEO, DWF, said:

“We are committed to sustainable and responsible business and we strongly believe a key part to the solution is urgent regulation and appropriate infrastructure changes which government must take responsibility for.”

Stuart Lemmon, CEO, EcoAct UK, an Atos company, said:

“Current government climate pledges are still far from sufficient in meeting the 1.5°C goal. They need to work in tandem with net-zero tangible delivery plans that move us further away from fossil fuels, fast. Solid energy efficiency and electrification policies, as well as renewable electricity deployment must become a priority for the UK Government. Such measures are not only essential in preventing climate breakdown but can also limit energy bills and reduce the soaring cost of living hitting UK households.”

James Brueton, CEO, and Aidan Bell, Managing Director, EnviroBuild, said:

“Having listened to the candidates televised debates, we hold minimal hope for meaningful environmental progress until a better government comes into power. We would like to believe net zero and nature restoration is a priority rather than simply growth at all costs.” – **James Brueton**

“It is incumbent upon the role of Prime Minister to protect the country and future generations from climate change. Taking leadership on a Net Zero Policy will help achieve that, and should be amongst the first things discussed at cabinet.” – **Aidan Bell**

Nick Dilworth, Chief Operating Officer, Esken, said:

“Esken asks the Prime Minister to prioritise net zero and nature restoration to build a resilient UK economy and a sustainable future.”

Paul Sutcliffe, Co-Founder and Executive Director, EVORA Global, said:

“EVORA believe that it is essential for the UK Government and the Prime Minister to prioritise net zero and nature restoration. We believe this is an essential step needed in the creation of a future-proof, world leading, resilient and sustainable economy.”

Michael Pawlyn, Managing Director, Exploration Architecture Limited, said:

“With joined up thinking it's perfectly possible to tackle climate change, the cost of living crisis and Russia's aggression in Ukraine simultaneously. Given that the UK's total historical GHG emissions per person are the highest in the world (apart from Luxemburg) we have a responsibility to demonstrate much greater leadership on climate change.”

Rich Speak, Co-Founder and Managing Director, Finance Earth, said:

“Our Environment is under significant strain. Nature and Climate are fundamental building blocks for our society's long term health and sustainability. Failing to protect and restore these foundational and critical elements will lead to catastrophic and expensive failures across the public and private sectors. We can see already that kicking the can down the road will leave us facing dire social and financial costs across the UK. Building resilience now, investing in and legislating for a 'Restorative' rather than 'Destructive' economic system will yield material medium and long term benefits (financial, social and environmental) to the UK as well as positioning us a 'Global Leader' on Nature and Climate in the short term.”

Basil Demeroutis, Managing Partner, FORE Partnership, said:

“Our area of focus, the built environment, is responsible for some 40% of global carbon emissions and yet has been among the slowest sectors to respond to the climate crisis. We urge the new government to accelerate support for the "green economy". With regulatory and fiscal action, this government can unlock billions of pounds of new investment and bolster the UK's leadership in what is the greatest investment opportunity of a generation.”

Simon Pritchard, Senior Partner, Gerald Eve LLP, said:

“We strongly encourage the new Prime Minister to prioritise net zero and nature restoration to build a resilient UK economy and take positive steps to help progress the commitments made by business since COP26.”

May Al-Karooni, CEO, Globechain, said:

“Focussing on economic growth is a UK priority right now; The new Prime Minister has an opportunity to achieve this by addressing the net zero and nature restoration targets. We need to have policies, frameworks and actionable steps for all levels of the society ecosystem, and I believe that together we can create a better and more resilient UK that flourishes.”

Ian Manocha, CEO, Gresham Technologies plc, said:

“I firmly believe our new Prime Minister should put their full weight behind this initiative. Investing for net zero and restoring our natural environment will not only accelerate a much needed bounce back but is critical for building a sustainable competitive economy for the future.”

Tom Steel, Director, Heyne Tillett Steel, said:

“We recognise the significant impact the built environment industry has on climate change and the extremely short timescale we have left to mitigate and limit its effects both in the UK and globally. So, we ask the new Prime Minister to prioritise legislation to deliver a net zero economy and reduce the biodiversity crisis, making the UK a global leader on climate change and nature restoration.”

Simon Bell, Director, HLM Architects, said:

“The new Prime Minister should prioritise policy to facilitate the creation of a resilient economy based on energy efficiency, renewable energy and natural capital, delivering a truly net zero carbon society enabling UK citizens to live an affordable, healthy and comfortable life while investing for future generations.”

Brian McConnell, Chief Executive Officer, Hydrock, said:

“For the UK to play our part in meeting our net zero target and in creating an environment that prioritises nature restoration, our industry calls upon you to act immediately to create a robust plan on how to deliver these targets, both in the short and long term.

“Energy transition must be accelerated to meet the challenges faced by businesses and households, but urgently needs frameworks and policies in place to make this a reality.”

David Kavanagh, Managing Director, Icen Projects, said:

“The development industry is committed to the net zero transition. The objective is simply too important not to achieve. But it is not something to be done in isolation or without Government support. It is critical that the Government matches this commitment and provides an ambitious and credible plan that give businesses confidence and certainty.”

Peter Jelkeby, Country Retail Manager and Chief Sustainability Officer, UK and Ireland, IKEA UK and Ireland (IKEA Ltd.), said:

“At IKEA we believe a sustainable life can be affordable, attractive and convenient – especially at a time of rapidly rising costs. As we face the visible realities of climate change, the new UK Prime Minister and Government must maintain the bold climate leadership needed to drive the UK’s transition to a more sustainable future, unlock opportunities, and support vulnerable people.”

Jon Khoo, Head of Sustainability, Interface, said:

“It is crucial that the government and business remain focussed and resolute on tackling the Climate Crisis. It is time to accelerate efforts to reach net zero and restore nature at a local, national and global level. At Interface, we are working to deliver on our Science Based Targets and goal of being a carbon negative enterprise by 2040. We believe that the UK Government has an essential role in encouraging other businesses to find solutions that support a just transition towards a future of clean energy and smart choices on operational and embodied carbon.”

Stacey Parrinder-Johnson, Chief Investment Officer, Investec Wealth & Investment, said:

“Investec Wealth & Investment support the clean energy transition, believing that it could both support UK households with the cost of living and provide an opportunity for the UK to become a leader in clean growth.”

Stephanie Hyde, Chief Executive, JLL UK, said:

“Real estate is central to the UK’s commitment to Net Zero Carbon and to achieving positive environmental and social outcomes, including the restoration of nature and a just transition. We encourage the government to support real estate businesses by creating a plan which recognises the integral role of buildings to create a more climate-resilient economy and an equitable society.”

Liam Condon, CEO, Johnson Matthey, said:

“Johnson Matthey represents the best of British science. Our highly innovative products and services are catalysing the move towards a clean hydrogen economy and the decarbonisation of chemical and energy production. The UK has a clear opportunity to lead in the global race to net zero and we are looking forward to working with the Prime Minister to accelerate progress that will benefit everyone.”

Adam Woodhall, CEO, Lawyers for Net Zero, said:

“The legal sector is increasingly taking action to support the delivery of the transition which is necessary to keep a liveable planet. This is represented by the support received for the Law Society of England and Wales’ “Climate Change Resolution”. Our Champions, who include General Counsel working in the largest British businesses, are supporting their organisations to rapidly deliver net zero and nature restoration, and we encourage the Prime Minister to continue to prioritise these critical issues.”

Hero Bennett, Sustainability Director, Partner, Max Fordham LLP, said:

“Prioritising net zero and nature restoration is important, not just for the future of humanity, but also our economy. At Max Fordham, we see huge potential for the UK in green growth and urge the new Prime Minister to implement practical steps to help realise this.”

Robert Lambe, Managing Director, Melius Homes, said:

“The only responsible way to respond to the current energy bills crisis is to reduce heating demand by implementing a National Retrofit Strategy to accelerate the retrofitting of our homes.”

Sarah McMath, CEO, MOSL, and Chair of the new UK Water Efficiency Steering Group, said:

“It is essential that the environment and commitments on net zero remain top of the political agenda. I urge the new Prime Minister to focus on long-term solutions for reducing the impact on our natural resources whilst managing the very real impact of climate change, the cost-of-living crisis and increasing population growth. This will require not only a shift in customer behaviour, which must be driven top down, but investment to enable us develop and implement innovative and long-term solutions for businesses, communities and our natural environment.”

Andy Briggs, Group CEO, Phoenix Group, said:

“Delivering net zero-aligned investment in the UK can not only help us to cut emissions, it is also essential to tackling the economic and geopolitical challenges we face. As the UK’s largest long-term savings and retirement business, we remain absolutely committed to our ambitious 2025, 2030 and 2050 decarbonisation targets. Now is the time to put in place the frameworks and incentives to unleash investment which can cut our carbon footprint, strengthen our energy security, and deliver growth opportunities across the country.”

Mark Everard, Executive Director of Property Services, MTVH, said:

“Ensuring government is working across all sectors to reduce carbon emissions and make progress towards achieving net zero is critical. Homes have a huge role to play in meeting these shared objectives, and as one of the largest not-for-profit housing providers in the country, we want to work with government to continue the progress we have started.”

Stefano Agostini, CEO, Nestlé UK&I, said:

“We must all work together to tackle some of the most pressing challenges facing our generation – that of climate change and nature degradation. Without urgent and collaborative action we will not be able to build a resilient and thriving UK economy. We hope that you will continue the UK’s leadership in environmental policy and I look forward to working with you as we transition to a stronger and greener future.”

Mark Hoyland, Group Chief Executive, Orbit Group, said:

“Tackling climate change is probably the biggest challenge the world faces. UK social landlords have a fundamental role to play in reducing the environmental impact that arises from building and maintaining homes. To do this takes strong partnerships with government, the supply chain, residents and funders.”

Harry Hyman, CEO, Primary Health Properties plc, said:

“We strongly support the UK’s leading climate commitments, but further action is needed to enable the transition to net zero and the restoration of nature, to ensure these are delivered. The economic opportunities are significant but this is also essential to the health and wellbeing of people across the UK, an issue close to our heart as we continue to invest in UK healthcare infrastructure.”

Andrew Mellor, Partner, PRP Group, said:

“PRP Architects urges the new prime minister to focus effort within Government on the prioritisation of achieving net zero across all sectors as well as the restoration of nature, to ensure a resilient future economy whilst providing secure net zero energy supplies and a balanced natural environment.”

Greg Laker, Director, Operations, QuestGates, said:

“At QuestGates we are passionate about having a sustainable business and minimising the Environmental impacts of our business. Like many organisations around the world we are committed to tackling climate change and have been working hard with our staff, clients and suppliers over the last 3 years to set ambitious targets to get to Net Zero as soon as possible. We need to act now to save our planet and it is crucial that businesses get support from Government to help us achieve this. We believe that working together we can make a better tomorrow.”

Philippa Spence, UK Managing Director, Ramboll UK, said:

“With the new Prime Minister in post, the Government needs to regain momentum in addressing the climate emergency, not just in response to the latest IPCC report identifying we have options in all sectors to at least halve emissions by 2030, but to support the UK population amid the cost of living crisis. We need decisive action that will bring about energy and food security, and resilience to extreme weather events that we are increasingly experiencing.”

Mary-Anne Bowring, CEO, Ringley Group, said:

“Improving the environmental performance existing buildings, and future-proofing those which are yet to arrive in our towns and cities is a challenge of monumental proportions. Achieving net zero will require everyone across the real estate value chain to play an active role, from investors through to asset managers and operators like ourselves down to developers, architects and other consultants and suppliers.”

Stephen Barrett, Partner, RSHP, said:

“The war in Ukraine coincides with the hottest summer on record in the United Kingdom, a pivotal intersection between energy and environmental crises. It’s precisely at this juncture that bold decisions are required. Not more of the same but rather an opportunity to implement long-term sustainable strategies deploying a range of intelligent, resilient, efficient, low-carbon renewable technologies and design solutions.”

Zahra Bahrololoumi, CEO, Salesforce UK&I, said:

“We are in a planetary emergency — a climate crisis that impacts everyone, especially the most vulnerable among us. It will only get worse unless we collectively take bold steps now to limit global warming. A resilient, productive and sustainable economy requires urgent focus on carbon reduction policies and investment in our planet’s natural ecosystems — which not only capture carbon but protect our communities from the dangerous impacts of the climate crisis.”

Saul Humphrey, Manager Partner, Saul D Humphrey LLP, said:

“Dr Saul Humphrey shares the UKGBC’s quest for prioritisation of the net zero and nature restoration agenda to build a more resilient and more stable UK economy. Our descendants depend upon us to make responsible decisions and to prioritise only sustainable investments.”

Peter Duff, Chairperson, Shoosmiths LLP, said:

“Prioritising net zero and nature restoration will play an important part in building a resilient economy. Businesses and government can and should support each other in this endeavour. We stand ready to learn, apply and share best practice to help achieve our collective goals to protect the planet.”

Stephen Rouatt, CEO, Signify UK&I, said:

“The cost of inadequate action towards climate change coupled with the cost of living crisis is adding unprecedented pressure on households and businesses. The UK needs stronger leadership and commitment to make a real difference. This is no longer a matter of choice.

At Signify, we believe that climate action and economic prosperity go hand-in-hand. The UK’s recovery needs to be underpinned by investment in innovative technologies – like connected LED lighting – that reduce carbon emissions, create jobs, and positively impact energy bills. For an average household, LED lighting offers an annual saving of up to £250 while also helping the UK move forward in its race to net zero. Strong policy and bold action under the new leadership can be a huge opportunity on the world stage for the UK to lead by example in the transition to a net zero economy.”

Kent Jackson, Partner, Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, said:

“Reducing carbon emissions, transitioning to clean energy, protecting and restoring nature – these goals are interrelated and essential to meeting the UK’s climate targets. The UK built environment accounts for 25 percent of the country’s greenhouse gas emissions; as architects, engineers, and urban planners, we are working to accelerate the decarbonisation of our industry. We need strong policies to bring these efforts to the mainstream. With your leadership, the UK can set the precedent for bold action towards a net zero economy, while safeguarding irreplaceable natural resources.”

Mark Smith, Chief Executive, Southern Co-op, said:

“We need action now. Climate action and sustainability targets must be embedded into everything we do as local businesses, in local communities and within Government. We would urge everyone to prioritise this work in order to build resilience or the future will be much bleaker for us all.”

Becky Valentine, Co-owner, Lead – Sustainability, Wellbeing & Building Health, Spenbeck, said:

“This summer’s extreme weather events, exacerbating the current supply chain disruption, show how our globalised economy simply cannot wait a moment longer to embed net zero and nature restoration into economic strategy. The new prime minister must ignore those with vested interests in the status quo, as to delay will be catastrophic to our economic, natural and human health.”

John Scanlon, Chief Executive Officer, SUEZ Recycling and Recovery UK, said:

“In view of the economic challenges we are facing, a clear policy framework for achieving net zero is essential to unlocking the investment needed to shift the UK to a more circular, resource efficient economy that supports socially responsible, green growth. SUEZ and our partners across the value chain are poised to deliver on the ambitions of the Resources and Waste Strategy, which have the potential to transform the way we design, make, use and dispose of products and their packaging, creating a lasting legacy for future generations.”

Alistair Allison, Managing Partner, TFT, said:

“The UK’s economic resilience is tied to decarbonisation and energy efficiency. While the building industry has never been better equipped to help achieve these goals, it needs stronger leadership to focus its work. That’s why we’re calling on the Prime Minister to use regulation and investment to set the stage for economic growth and a cleaner future.”

Tom Druitt, CEO, The Big Lemon CIC, said:

“We at The Big Lemon are very pleased to support the Prime Minister in their prioritising policies which will move us closer to net zero and help to restore our natural spaces, while rebuilding a thriving, resilient British economy.”

Shirine Khoury-Haq, Chief Executive Officer, The Co-operative Group, said:

“We are in the grip of a climate crisis and it is critical that business and government alike take responsibility and act urgently. That’s why at Co-op we are committed to becoming a net zero business by 2040. Together, we call on the UK government to take ambitious action to achieve net zero and reverse nature loss.”

Bevis Watts, CEO, Triodos Bank UK, said:

“We still have the chance to create a more socially, environmentally and economically resilient future, but it is absolutely vital that our new prime minister recognises the scale and urgency of the climate and biodiversity crises and embraces every possible opportunity to meet it head on.”

Eliot Whittington, Director, UK Corporate Leaders Group, said:

“The UK is facing severe economic headwinds. The best and only sensible way of facing up to them has to include investing in British renewable energy and helping homes and businesses be more energy efficient. Maintaining and strengthening our focus on net zero and nature protection can help us move beyond the rising costs of fossil fuels and deliver a better economy with more energy and food security, more jobs and greater social equality. What’s more, the Conservative Party has rightly enshrined net zero into law and in so doing reaffirmed UK leadership on climate action, further demonstrated at last year’s COP26 summit. UK business and finance leaders urgently want to see more leadership from government on this agenda, with clear, well-resourced and defined plans to get us on track for a more stable climate and stronger economy.”

Paul Sheedy, CEO, Unifi ID Limited, said:

“If we had listened to the science 30 years ago, if we had invested in renewables over the past 30 years, if we had educated the public on the issues of climate change, then we would not be in this perfect storm. Now we are increasing substantially the subsidies for us to carry on with our fossil fuel addiction. The £10's of billions if not a £100+ billion needed in the years ahead to support this energy crisis, would never have been needed if we did the right thing over the last decades. Time for change is now, the UK has the technology, the skills, the ingenuity to rapidly change, Do it now.”

Dave Worthington, Managing Director, Verco, said:

“Verco proudly joins the collective voice of UK businesses and investors in calling on the new Prime Minister to prioritise net zero and nature restoration to build a resilient UK economy.”

Jakob Sigurdsson, Chief Executive Officer, VICTREX PLC, said:

“As a UK based but global organisation which already has products supporting environmental or societal benefit around the world, particularly in CO2 reduction, Victrex urges the new Prime Minister to reaffirm the UK’s commitment to Net Zero and enable businesses like ours to move forward with our own climate goals.”

Tim Wheeldon, Managing Director, Zeal Hotels, said:

“There are many business leaders in the UK committing to net zero carbon. Profit is important but we must ensure people & the planet are cared for in order to make profit. Public opinion and support regarding ESG’s is growing rapidly & it’s vital our political leaders prioritise net zero and nature restoration in order to build a resilient UK economy.”

Colin Heal, Director, Zeho Projects Ltd, said:

“The recent severe changes in weather patterns and the current energy crisis only serve to highlight that achieving net zero is more urgent than ever before. Many positive words came out of COP 26 last year, but now the promised

actions need to be acted on immediately before life on our planet as we know it is a distant memory for future generations.”