

Business Champions – launch interviews

The following questions have been developed as a structured interview to capture the approach and commitment of businesses across the sector to achieving Net Zero by 2050 in line with the COConstructZero priorities.

The interview can be captured in writing or filmed and shared with Stuart Young (Stuart.Young@beis.gov.uk) by the 15th of each mon, starting in April.

Interviewees are encouraged to provide photos and diagrams to illustrate their story, but also to keep to a concise response to the questions.

The interview and company logo will be featured on the CLC website and as part of your ongoing role as a business champion you will be invited to speak and share your story with your peers and Government stakeholders.

Feature interview questions

Questions to the business leader:

- ❖ Why is making progress on Net Zero important to your business?
- ❖ **Saint-Gobain sees the transformation to a Net Zero, sustainable world as core to its purpose, to make the world a better home. We have the products and systems to truly contribute to the transformation of construction and to co-create and innovate where our customers need new solutions. We recognise the expectations on businesses from many stakeholders to act with transparency and integrity on climate change and wider sustainability issues.**
- ❖ Which of the 9 priorities are more relevant to your business and clients and why?

Transport 1: for our own managed commercial fleet, we will progressively move to renewable fuels. We have already implemented a new Company Car policy for all to be fully electric vehicles by end of 2023

Transport 2 through our growing Off Site Solutions expertise to increase building performance, thermally and for air-tightness, to increase build quality and speed and to reduce waste.

Transport 3 we are actively working across all parts of the value chain, with our suppliers on upstream transport and with logistics partners on downstream logistics to shift to more renewable methods.

Buildings 4,5 and 6: this is central to our Purpose to help new build and re-purpose and retrofit solutions to enhance building performance, reduce CO2, energy use and reduce waste.

Construction Activity 7,8 and 9: Implementing CO2 measurement in our own operations to reduce and eliminate CO2 embodied in products; innovating in product and system design for installation, repair, upgrade in use, and recover, recycle at end of life in products such as Gypsum, Glass and Insulation

- ❖ What are doing to make progress against the relevant priorities (of the 9) in the short and long-term? (Could include targets or milestones)
- ❖ **We have fully developed road maps for each of our operating businesses to reach Net Zero by no later than 2050, with interim targets of 33% reduction in Scope 1&2 by 2030 and 16% in Scope 3 by 2030 (vs 2017 base line).**

- ❖ **Specific actions have included: committing to certified Renewable Electricity for all UK operations (over last 6 years); committing to new Car Policy to be fully electric by end of 2023; Capital Investment in new Glass furnace to class leading performance; extending closed loop operating in glass in partnership with key customers; increasing recycled gypsum content in products; active energy reduction programme and 50001 accreditation for all major sites; introduction of internal carbon price for investment assessment; alternative fuels in logistics; changes and innovation in packaging to achieve 100% recyclable packaging by 2030; deploying LED lighting across Distribution network; developing new and refurbished branches to Net Zero standard; using our own land bank to look at Renewables Installations and private wire style arrangements.**
- ❖ **In addition, we have established an external Advisory Panel to assist out approach and direction and an Employee Assembly made up of 50 employees drawn from across our businesses.**
- ❖ How have you helped your supply chain understand what is required against the 9 priorities?
- ❖ **We are actively engaged with Suppliers on the need for transformation and we have changed our sourcing criteria to make CO2 transition more prominent.**
- ❖
- ❖ As a business leader what do you think the biggest challenge is and how are you working to overcome it? **The speed and scale of change and the investment and cash needed to achieve it; supplier innovation to change and support our transformation; product and process innovation; customer expectations and speed to change; skills and knowledge to achieve the transformation; technology at scale such as Carbon Capture and Storage and Policy decisions to deliver step changes such as Hydrogen infrastructure.**
- ❖
- ❖ In your view what is the one innovation or change that is going to have the biggest impact on carbon or progress in our industry? **To regulate construction to operate totally within a closed loop and for all buildings to be zero embodied carbon and zero in use.**

Questions to the emerging leader:

- ❖ What do your peers and wider employees within your company think about the businesses' approach to Net Zero?
- ❖ How are the younger generation within your business engaged in this?
- ❖ What more do you think your business could be doing against the 9 priorities?
- ❖ A Youth Voice COP climate is being organised in Milan to bring together young people globally- what would be your key issue to raise?
- ❖ what do you do in your daily life/job that makes a difference?

Construct Zero Priorities

Transport

1. Accelerating the shift of the construction workforce to **zero emission vehicles and onsite plant**
2. Maximising use of **Modern Methods of Construction** and improved onsite logistics, reducing waste and transport to sites
3. Championing developments and infrastructure investments that both enable connectivity with **low carbon modes of transport** and design to **incorporate readiness for zero emission vehicles**

Buildings

4. Work with Government to **deliver retrofitting to improve energy efficiency** of the existing housing stock
5. Scale up industry capability to deliver **low carbon heat solutions** in buildings, supporting heat pump deployment, trials of hydrogen heating systems and heat networks

6. Enhancing the **energy performance of new and existing buildings** through higher operational energy efficiency standards and better building energy performance monitoring

Construction Activity

7. **Implementing carbon measurement**, to support our construction projects in making quantifiable decisions to remove carbon
8. Become world leaders in **designing out carbon**, developing the capability of our designers and construction professionals to develop designs in line with **circular economy** - reducing embedded and operational carbon, shifting commercial models to incentivise and reward measurable carbon reductions.
9. Support development of **innovative low carbon materials (prioritising concrete and steel)**, as well as advancing low carbon solutions for manufacturing production processes and distribution