

Net Zero Now Financial Advisers Certification Guidelines

Net Zero Now is the Official Certification Scheme Provider for the Net Zero Sector Protocols - a series of industry standards that defines what Net Zero means practically for businesses in different sectors and what those businesses need to do to get there.

Providing sector-specific guidance is critical - the greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions of a restaurant or a manufacturer will be very different to those of a retailer or accounting firm, but similar to other businesses in their sector. Different sources of emissions mean a different challenge in measuring and managing those emissions, therefore each sector needs its own solution.

The Net Zero Financial Advisers Protocol provides that solution. The protocol is developed alongside key industry partners and sector experts including, Fintel and Liontrust, providing a clear and consistent route to Net Zero which not only complies with global standards*, but is also relevant and accessible for businesses in the Financial Sector. The protocol is designed to give businesses the confidence to start their journey to Net Zero, safe in the knowledge that they are both meeting the industry standards and having a meaningful and credible impact on the climate crisis.

The Net Zero Now Certification Scheme uses the Net Zero Sector Protocols as the standard against which to assess each business' progress to Net Zero and provide a recognised and trusted way to communicate that progress to their customers, employees, investors and other stakeholders.

**The Net Zero Sector Protocols are built upon recognised international standards including: [The GHG Protocol](#), [The Science Based Targets Initiative](#) and, [The Oxford University Principles of Net Zero Aligned Carbon Offsetting](#)*



How do I achieve Certification?



Complete an annual footprint

Complete your annual carbon footprint calculation, in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Net Zero protocol.

Completed

Completed



Commit to ambitious targets

Businesses must commit to ambitious emission reduction targets to qualify for the first level of certification (see below)

Committed to

Achieved



Commit to compensate for residual emissions

Once you reach the long-term reduction target, you agree to purchase and retire certified carbon offsets equivalent to the remaining emissions. Net Zero Now has partnered with [Climate Partner](#) who can provide businesses with credible and certified carbon offsets.

Committed to

Achieved



Agree to publish GHG data

To demonstrate your commitment to transparency and advocacy, you will publish each year the validated annual footprint, targets, action taken and progress towards reaching net zero. Once you have committed to these targets on the platform, you will be certified as 'On the Road to Net Zero'.

Committed to

Achieved



Inform your staff

Financial Advisers must commit to providing 50% of client facing staff and senior management with approved training within three years and all by 2030.

Committed to

Achieved



Assess new clients

Financial Advisers must commit to completing a Fact Find and Mandate that includes best practice copy relating to client preference on climate impact for all new clients from the year following the base year calculation and for all existing clients within three years.

Committed to

Achieved



Act

You will request Climate impact statements from Asset managers, alongside Annual Valuation Statements, for all clients and you will disclose the proportion of qualifying assets under advice for which climate impact data has been provided.

Committed to

Achieved

What are the ambitious targets?

Near term targets	At least 50% reduction of our scope 1 & 2 emissions by 2030.
	At least 30% reduction of our scope 3 within 5 years.
Long term targets	At least 90% reduction across all of our emissions, including scope 3, by 2050.