Seizing the opportunity: businesses want to go further, faster

Businesses attending this year's London Climate Action Week Business Leaders' Summit were clear on the opportunities a resilient, low carbon, nature rich economy can bring to the UK. Building on a solid foundation of policy and business action, attendees want the UK to go further and faster to unlock the clear economic, social and environmental benefits of the transition. They value clear, consistent political leadership and call on government and all parties to acknowledge the risks, recognise the opportunities, and drive collaboration.

During London Climate Action Week (LCAW) 2026, business leaders from across the economy gathered at the **4th UK Business Leaders' Summit**. Convened by **Corporate Leaders Group UK** and the **Aldersgate Group**, the Summit aimed to unlock action, investment and implementation, with discussions centred on how government and business can work together to secure a resilient, low-carbon, nature-rich UK economy. This took place during London's latest heatwave, a stark reminder of the severe climate challenges facing UK residents and businesses, and the urgent need for far-reaching, cross-society efforts to protect our economy and society.

At the Summit, over 100 attendees heard from business leaders across sectors, as well as from DESNZ's Chief Scientific Advisor Prof. Emily Shuckburgh and Climate Minister Katie White. Delegates were positive about the strong foundations the UK government has already laid: clear long-term climate goals, world-class institutions and ambitious policies are already helping businesses to invest, innovate and grow.

From clean energy and electric vehicles to sustainable finance and industrial decarbonisation, companies of all sizes across the country are showing that climate and nature action can go hand in hand with protecting and growing our economy. The benefits on offer are tremendous, securing energy supplies, reducing costs, boosting productivity, creating skilled jobs and opening access in fast-growing global markets.

Businesses stand ready to help: they will keep investing, sharing best practice, supporting smaller firms and explaining the benefits to all, but they need government leadership too. To go further and faster towards a resilient, low carbon, nature rich economy, businesses need a clear, consistent policy framework that builds investor confidence in the technologies, infrastructure and investment required. This will support an unrelenting focus on driving down electricity costs, accelerating electrification, building climate resilience, and establishing viable, investable nature markets.

We call upon government and all political parties to work with business by:

1. **Acknowledging the risks** – without proactive climate and nature action, we risk harming the whole UK economy, including the costs of living and doing business.
2. **Recognising the opportunities** – low carbon, nature positive approach is essential to our economic future, providing new opportunities, creating jobs and securing energy supplies.
3. **Driving the collaboration** – these issues are complex and multi-faceted, requiring collaboration across departments, regional tiers of government and business interests.

Together this would allow us to secure a resilient, low carbon, nature rich economy that works for all. In making the UK the place of choice in which to invest, innovate and grow a business, we can share the tangible, long-lasting benefits across a safer, healthier and happier society.