

Climate Timescales

A milestone approach (based on the commencement date of the procurement) has been developed to enable public sector buyers to build climate and carbon management requirements into their contracts.

The following milestones have been proposed to buyers if they have relevant or priority contracts.

Please note these milestones are recommendations - buyers may begin to include climate requirements into their procurements earlier than the below dates.

Contracts commencing in 2023:

All relevant contracts: Bidders will be required to provide assurance that their organisation has taken steps to build their awareness of the climate change emergency and how they will respond, including knowledge of their **emissions sources** and **actions** to address these.

All priority contracts: Bidders will be required to demonstrate knowledge of the climate emergency and the impact of their organisation, including knowledge of their **emissions sources, actions** to address these, and calculations of their organisation's own **scope 1 and 2 emissions**.

Quickfire Guide

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What are Scope 1, 2 and 3 Carbon Emissions?

Carbon emissions are classified as Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions, as defined in the [Greenhouse Gas Protocol](#):

Scope 1 emissions are direct emissions arising from owned or controlled sources e.g. owned vehicles, combustion of fuel in facilities

Scope 2 emissions are indirect emissions from purchased energy e.g. electricity, heating, cooling

Scope 3 emissions are all other indirect emissions that occur in the organisation's value chain e.g. purchased goods and services, waste, business travel, staff commuting, water

Contracts commencing in 2025:

The threshold for priority contracts will be lowered to contracts valued over £2 million that focus on commodities identified as climate change priorities by individual organisations.

Note that proposed future changes to thresholds will be subject to review.

Procurements commencing after 2025:

Milestones beyond 2025 are under development.

Ways to increase the climate change information required of bidders over time will include:

- requiring additional scope 3 emissions reporting and
- lowering the value threshold for priority contracts, with thresholds reviewed on a bi-annual basis.

Procurements commencing from 2045 onwards

By 2045 it is expected that bidders will be required to:

1. demonstrate knowledge of their scope 3 carbon emissions
2. provide a documented plan including scope 1, 2 and 3 emission reduction targets and a plan to achieve these targets and
3. demonstrate progress against their climate change strategy, including reductions to their calculated scope 1, 2 and 3 carbon emissions

You can find where to get further advice in [Climate Help and Support](#)