

Dear Supplier,

The Information, Communications and Technology (ICT) sector is estimated to contribute 1.4% of total worldwide emissions<sup>1</sup>. The Digital Connectivity Forum (DCF) and its members are determined to play an ambitious role in tackling global emissions –75% of current members have already validated Science Based Targets<sup>2</sup>.

Supplier engagement is critical to advancing these goals. DCF's State of the Industry report<sup>3</sup> found that Purchased Goods and Services represented the largest source of Scope 3 emissions.

The Signatories to this letter belong to the ICT sector and collectively make approximately £50bn in annual turnover.

Action in the ICT sector will enable us to address the supply chain emissions issue and provide suppliers with clarity.

Accordingly, we have identified minimum climate and sustainability standards for tier 1<sup>4</sup> suppliers which aim to reduce emissions in a simple and pragmatic way. The following minimum supplier standards will be introduced one year from publication of this letter:

1. Publicly disclose, on an annual basis, Scopes 1, 2, and 3 emissions data<sup>5</sup>, with third-party verification for Scopes 1 & 2.
2. Publicly disclose a science-based carbon reduction target<sup>6</sup>.
3. Establish goals to improve the energy efficiency, reduce the embodied emissions, and increase circularity of the products provided, for example through higher reuse and refurbishment rates and reduced waste.
4. Where feasible, to implement Life Cycle Assessments or Product Carbon Footprints in accordance with ISO, or other, standards for relevant goods they supply.

As our valued suppliers, we urge you to sign up to these minimum targets, and ask you to engage with your own supply chain to reduce carbon emissions and pursue circular principles.

Signatories are of course free to act as they wish in their individual dealings with suppliers and may encourage their suppliers to use more stringent standards than the minimum standards set out above.

Each Signatory shall independently decide the application of these standards<sup>7</sup>. Suppliers will be free to determine how they will meet these standards.

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<sup>1</sup> [Sustainability and ICT – Mobility Report - Ericsson](#)

<sup>2</sup> Source: [DCF State of the Industry](#) report. Individual members will have a range of emissions reduction targets, net zero goals and carbon neutrality targets.

<sup>3</sup> Source: [DCF State of the Industry report](#)

<sup>4</sup> Tier 1 suppliers meaning those direct suppliers to the Signatories, explanation [here](#).

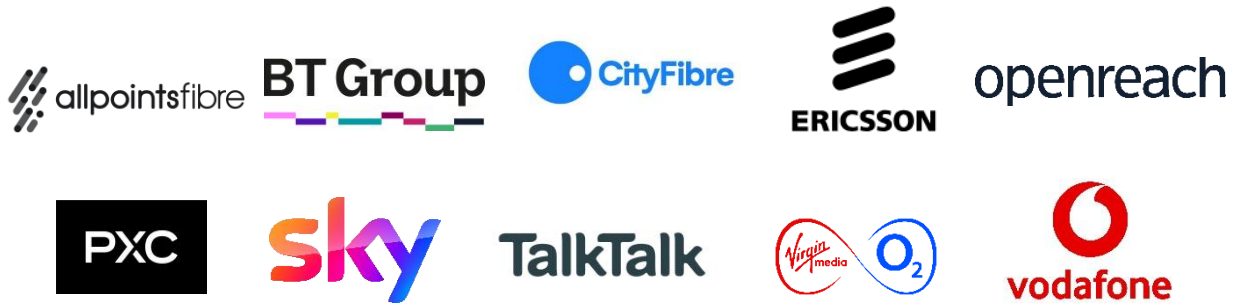
<sup>5</sup> At a minimum should include scopes 1, 2 and all relevant categories 1-8 of scope 3.

<sup>6</sup> For the avoidance of doubt this does not mandate a validated Science Based Targets, merely that the targets are aligned with the Science Based Targets Initiative standard or a partner organisation of the [Race to Zero](#)

<sup>7</sup> Standards are voluntary and Signatories may apply other standards.

Finally, in recognition of the challenges that many smaller suppliers are facing, the DCF has published guidance for SMEs on how to reduce carbon emissions.<sup>8</sup>

Yours faithfully,



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<sup>8</sup> Free guidance for SMEs can be found [here](#) and the [Business Climate Hub site](#).