

Publishers Association launches 'Carbon Calculator' to help industry tackle climate change

The bespoke tool is first of its kind in the industry with a 'Materials Matrix' to follow

London, 23rd September 2022: The Publishers Association has today announced the launch of its bespoke Carbon Calculator. This is part of a suite of tools designed to support its members in acting on the Publishing Declares pledge. The Carbon Calculator is the first and only bespoke tool of its kind available to the UK book and journal publishing industry.

Designed by sustainability experts RISE (Research Institutes of Sweden) and software company Solstice, the tool will allow members to monitor their carbon outputs across various aspects of their business, including different sites and departments. It will monitor for Green House Gas emissions made by the company itself, emissions it produces indirectly, and emissions up and down its value chain.

Members will be able to use the Carbon Calculator to review how they are performing from a sustainability perspective. Over time, with further data, publishers will be able to be benchmarked against each other, as well as the industry as a whole. This will highlight areas for improvement and help the industry tackle collective issues in sustainability.

A Materials Matrix will be added alongside the Carbon Calculator over the coming weeks and will allow members to see the most used materials in the publishing supply chain and sustainable alternatives. Each material is assessed according to a set of key environmental and social indicators and aims to encourage those in the design and production process to choose more sustainable options.

Dan Conway, CEO, Publishers Association said: *"Climate change is one of the most prevalent issues of our lifetime and one that we all must work to address. We worked with members to establish the Publishing Declares pledge and are fully committed to working towards a more sustainable future.*

"The Carbon Calculator and Materials Matrix will give our members a well-rounded view of their operations and help them make more sustainable choices throughout their entire business and value chain. Investing in tools like these demonstrates our Association's commitment to the sustainability agenda and the industry's drive to make a greener future a reality for all."

Susan Pinkney, Head of Research, Publishers Association said: *"Climate change and sustainability are topics that we see discussed at length, and we're delighted to be able to help our members turn these conversations into action. The Carbon Calculator and Materials Matrix are innovative assets that will be invaluable in helping our members spot any gaps where they can improve, whilst providing a holistic view of how sustainable their operations are.*

"We're looking forward to working with our members and the wider industry to further develop these tools and address sustainability issues both now and in the future."

The Publishers Association has recently announced they will be hiring a Sustainability Manager as part of its commitment to building a more sustainable industry. The new role will include further development of the Carbon Calculator and associated tools for members.

[Publishing Declares](#) is a declaration on behalf of the UK book and journal publishing industry to take urgent action on climate change. An initiative of the Sustainability Taskforce, the declaration was launched in October 2021 with 39 founding signatories and now has over 100.

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About the Publishers Association

We are the member organisation for UK publishing, representing companies of all sizes and specialisms. Our members produce digital and print books, research journals and educational resources across genres and subjects.

We exist to champion publishing to the wider world and to provide our members with everything they need to thrive. We have helped change laws, improved business conditions and inspired people to become publishers.

We are passionate about the capacity for books and reading to make life better for people.

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