

SDG Roadshow 2018 for the UK

Making Global Goals Local Business – Leeds

Event Report

MAKING GLOBAL GOALS LOCAL BUSINESS



Date: 21st June 2018

Location: Centrica, Leeds

Number of delegates: 30

Speakers:

Steve Kenzie, Executive Director, UN Global Compact Network UK

Carol Cheetham, Senior Manager, Responsible Business, Centrica

Colin Curtis, Strategy Director, TBL Services

Vicky Bullivant, Group Head of Corporate Responsibility, Drax Group

Katerina Robinson, Group Environment Sustainability Manager, Freedom Group

Ivan Le Roux, Head of Group Insurance, Skipton Building Society

Tom Knowland, Head of Sustainable Energy and Climate Change, Leeds City Council

SLIDES

AGENDA

SDG Roadshow 2018: www.sdg-roadshow.org.uk

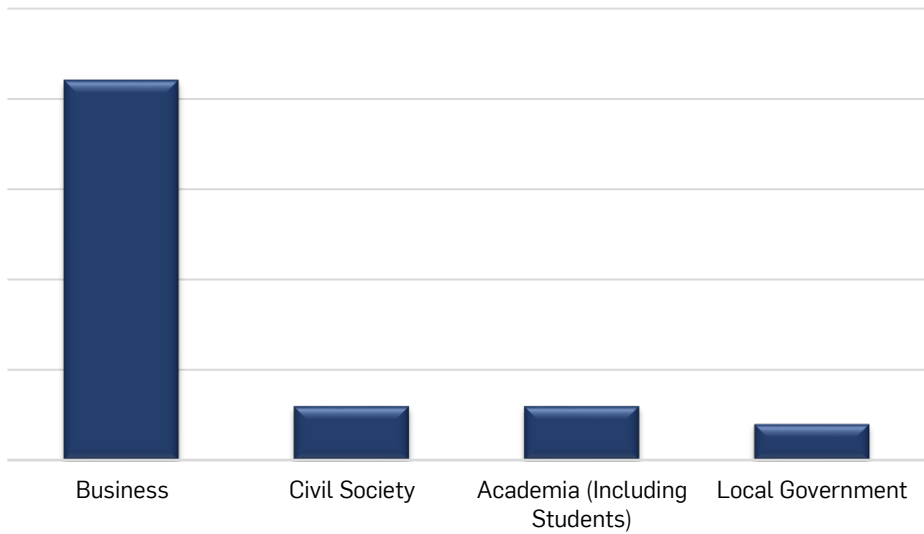
Contact us: secretariat@unglobalcompact.org

UN Global Compact's website: <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/>

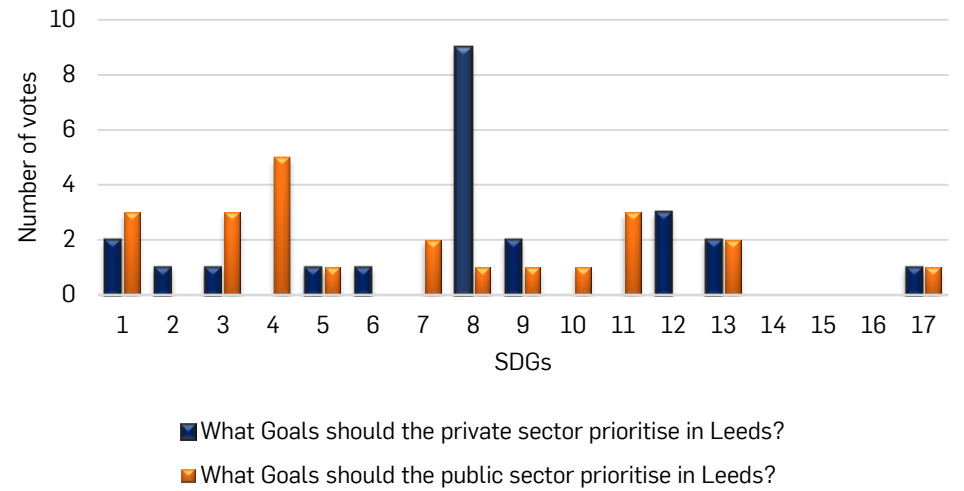
UN Global Compact Network UK's website: <http://www.unglobalcompact.org.uk/>



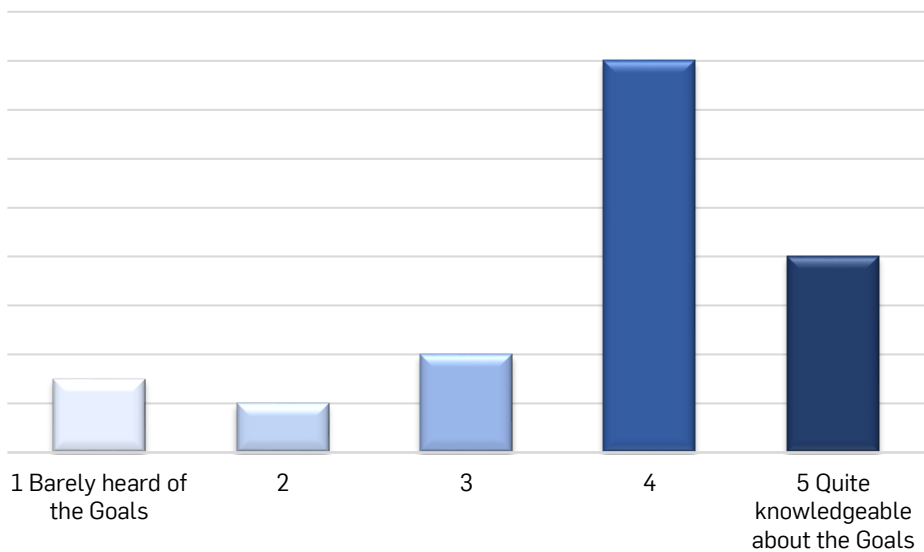
Audience breakdown



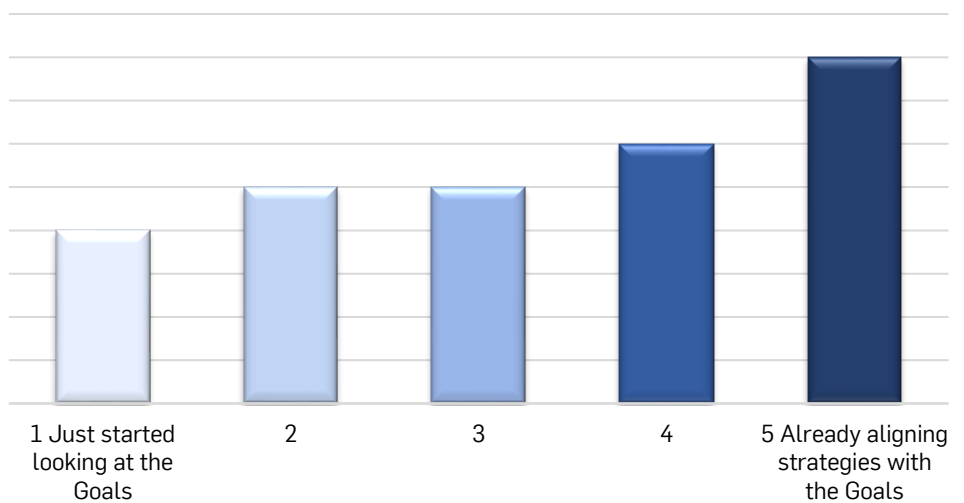
Dot Voting: Finding positions of strength



SDG awareness before the event



Attendees' involvement with the Global Goals



By attending Making Global Goals Local Business - Leeds, delegates were able to develop an understanding of:

- What the Global Goals are.
- Why should businesses care about them.
- How can business contribute to achieving the Goals and benefit from doing so.

On Global Goals:

After the largest public consultation ever undertaken, the SDGs were adopted in 2015 by the UK and the other 192 Member States of the United Nations. At the heart of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, they call for economic growth, innovation, circular economies and upgraded infrastructure, as well as providing a path to end extreme poverty, fight inequality, and protect the planet.

The Global Goals were hailed as a 'paradigm shift for people and planet' by former Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon. They are going to transform our world, and that transformation will create opportunities for new business models to deliver new products and services into new markets.

Every company (and every citizen) needs to understand this important global mega-trend!

Key insights from the event:

- The Goals are important for business and business is important for the Goals.
- The SDGs provide a new reference for what sustainability means for the world but also for how it can be relevant for each company.
- No business leaders would think that these Goals are a bad idea.
- The SDGs make it easier for companies to recognise their impacts and the positive contributions they can make.
- Business has both the scale and the ability to make an impact.
- Companies must not only formalise an SDG strategy, but must act it, tell it, and encourage others.
- The SDGs might seem overwhelming but by appreciating smaller contributions, having conversations, sharing ideas, and acting locally, the Goals actually look very achievable.
- Speaking about sustainability with stakeholders is made easier as the SDGs are nice and straightforward.
- Large companies that would have never been associated with sustainability 20 years ago are now leading the way on the SDGs, as they have realised that sustainability is the right thing to do and is smart business.
- Getting your materiality matrix right will determine the success of your SDGs strategy.
- Building a sustainable business strategy is neither about charity nor philanthropy, it's about creating value. It has a real and tangible impact on the business.
- Partnerships between the private sector, public sector and civil society is key to achieve the SDGs.
- Not embracing the Goals will result in being left behind in the future.
- UK Government's measures can catalyse fast change in the SDG space, like with plastic waste or modern slavery.
- What else can you do? How can you do things differently? Be creative to solve sustainability issues and look at what leaders are doing to get inspired.

[LINK TO THE SDGs](#)

 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS**



All the best with your SDG journey !

