

UN Global Climate Action Awards: Climate Neutral Now Taylors of Harrogate: Journey to Carbon Neutrality | United Kingdom

Taylors of Harrogate is an independent family tea and coffee business, founded in 1886. It produces a range of tea and coffee products including the UK's leading black tea brand Yorkshire Tea. Its tea and coffee products became carbon neutral certified in July 2019 and it became a carbon neutral business in February 2020.

Taylors of Harrogate has embedded its carbon ambition into its business strategy from the start; not only through reduction efforts in its operations but by embarking on a unique programme with its longterm suppliers to tackle the interlinked challenges of climate change, smallholder livelihoods and ensuring a continuous supply of quality tea and coffee.

The company's carbon neutral product certification is from 'field to supermarket shelf' accounting for all the emissions from cultivating, processing and shipping its tea and coffee as well as blending, roasting and packing it in its factory then transporting it to retailers all around the world.

Key facts

- Some of the activities Taylors of Harrogate has employed over the last 10 years to lower its footprint include: installing solar panels on the tea and coffee factory, generating almost 200,000 kwh of electricity a year; sending zero waste to landfill since 2017; increasing the efficiency of its trucks; and importing all its tea and coffee through the north East Coast of England instead of the South Coast, saving 136,000 road miles and 205.8 tonnes of CO2 emissions in 2018 alone.
- Taylors of Harrogate has been working with the International Small Group and Tree Planting Programme in four communities in Kenya since 2015, working with smallholders and farmers in rural communities to bring them together and share best practice and knowledge on conservation farming techniques, with a view to community reforestation.
- There are currently about 7,500 tea farmers included in the project across four factories.

More information

Digital assets are available for download at <u>https://trello.com/b/FNvAMbUN/2021-announcement-un-global-climate-action-awards</u>

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