A practical guide to the current SECR requirements

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) is the UK framework requiring qualifying organisations to disclose energy use, greenhouse gas emissions, an intensity metric and information on energy-efficiency action within annual reporting.

What is SECR?

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) came into effect in April 2019. It was introduced to increase transparency around organisational energy use and carbon emissions and to encourage businesses to improve energy efficiency.

SECR is an annual reporting requirement. It is separate from the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS), although many organisations who are in scope of one are subject to both.

2026 update: The Government published a post-implementation review of SECR in May 2026. The review identified areas for future simplification and improvement, but it did not replace the current reporting requirements.

Who needs to report?

SECR applies to:

- UK quoted companies;
- large UK-incorporated unquoted companies; and
- large Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs)

For unquoted companies and LLPs, the organisation is in scope where it meets at least **two of the following three criteria**:

Criterion	SECR threshold
Employees	More than 250
Annual turnover	More than £36 million
Balance sheet total	More than £18 million

Important: although the general Companies Act company-size monetary thresholds increased in April 2025, the current SECR thresholds remain £36 million turnover, £18 million balance sheet total and more than 250 employees.

Low-energy exemption

A qualifying organisation may use the low-energy exemption where its energy consumption is **40,000 kWh or less** during the relevant reporting period. Where this exemption is used, the relevant report should state that the organisation is a low-energy user and that detailed energy and carbon information has therefore not been disclosed.





What needs to be reported?

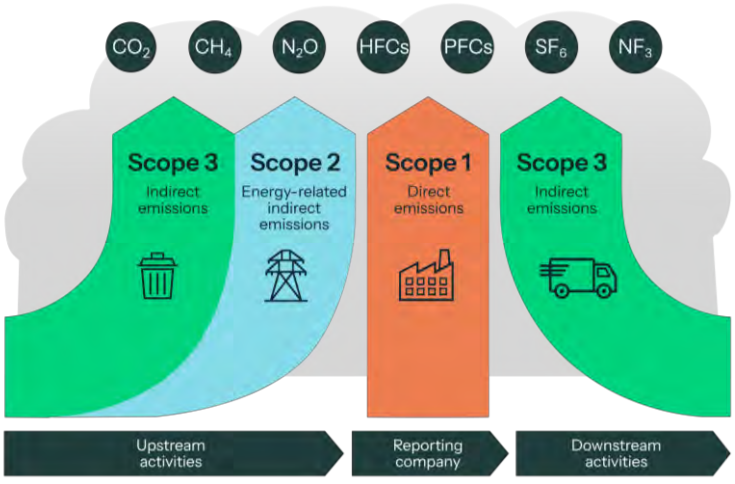
The detailed requirements differ between quoted companies and large unquoted companies/LLPs. For large unquoted companies and LLPs, the core disclosures include:

UK energy use	Energy consumed in the UK, including relevant electricity, gas and transport energy, reported in kWh.
Associated greenhouse gas emissions	The greenhouse gas emissions associated with the reported energy use, normally expressed as tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (tCO_2e).
An intensity ratio	At least one meaningful performance ratio, for example tCO_2e per tonne of product, per £m turnover, per employee or per m^2 of floor area.
Energy-efficiency action	A description of the principal measures taken during the reporting year to improve energy efficiency. If no action was taken, this should be stated.
Methodology	An explanation of the calculation methodology, including relevant data sources, assumptions and emission factors.
Baseline year	A baseline year should be established to track energy consumption and emissions performance over time.
Previous-year figures	Previous-year figures should be reported for comparison. Significant organisational changes may require re-baselining, with any adjustments clearly explained.

Scope 1, Scope 2 and Scope 3

Quoted companies report global Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions and the underlying energy use. Large unquoted companies and LLPs report UK energy use and the associated emissions from electricity, gas and transport activities.

Certain business-travel energy use can also fall within the mandatory disclosure for large unquoted companies and LLPs, including travel in rental cars or employee-owned vehicles where the organisation is responsible for purchasing the fuel. Other Scope 3 emissions may be reported voluntarily where relevant or material.





Which conversion factors should be used?

Use the appropriate UK Government greenhouse gas conversion factors for the reporting period. The Government publishes these factors annually. The 2026 factors were published in June 2026 and updated in July 2026.

Choosing an intensity ratio

An intensity ratio puts emissions into the context of organisational activity and helps show whether performance is improving. The chosen metric should be relevant to the organisation and, where possible, used consistently from year to year.

Manufacturing	tCO_2e per tonne/unit of product
Property / estates	tCO_2e per m^2 floor area
Professional services	tCO_2e per £m turnover or per employee
Transport / logistics	tCO_2e per delivery, vehicle-km or tonne-km
Hospitality / care	tCO_2e per guest night, bed or service user

SECR and ESOS - what is the difference?

SECR and ESOS are separate requirements. SECR is an annual disclosure requirement, while ESOS is a periodic energy assessment scheme for qualifying organisations. Organisations can fall within both regimes.

ESOS

Identifies energy-saving opportunities and requires qualifying organisations to assess significant areas of energy consumption.

SECR

Provides annual visibility of energy consumption, emissions and energy-efficiency action through company reporting.

Used together, ESOS can identify what to do next, while SECR can help demonstrate what action has been taken and how performance changes over time.





SECR reporting checklist

- ☐ Confirm whether the organisation and group structure are in scope.
- ☐ Define the reporting boundary and reporting period.
- ☐ Collect complete UK electricity, gas, fuel and relevant transport data.
- ☐ Check whether the low-energy exemption is applicable.
- ☐ Apply the appropriate Government GHG conversion factors.
- ☐ Calculate energy consumption and associated emissions.
- ☐ Select and calculate an appropriate intensity ratio.
- ☐ Compare current-year figures with the previous year.
- ☐ Record the principal energy-efficiency actions taken during the year.
- ☐ Document the methodology, assumptions and any estimates used.
- ☐ Ensure the final disclosures are incorporated into the appropriate annual report.



What counts as an energy-efficiency action?

Examples include:

- LED lighting and controls;
- heating, cooling or building management system (BMS) optimisation;
- process and plant optimisation;
- compressed-air improvements;
- sub-metering, monitoring and targeting;
- fleet-efficiency measures and changes to transport activity;
- renewable or low-carbon energy projects;
- employee engagement and behavioural programmes; and
- implementation of opportunities identified through ESOS, audits or energy-management programmes.



Getting more value from SECR

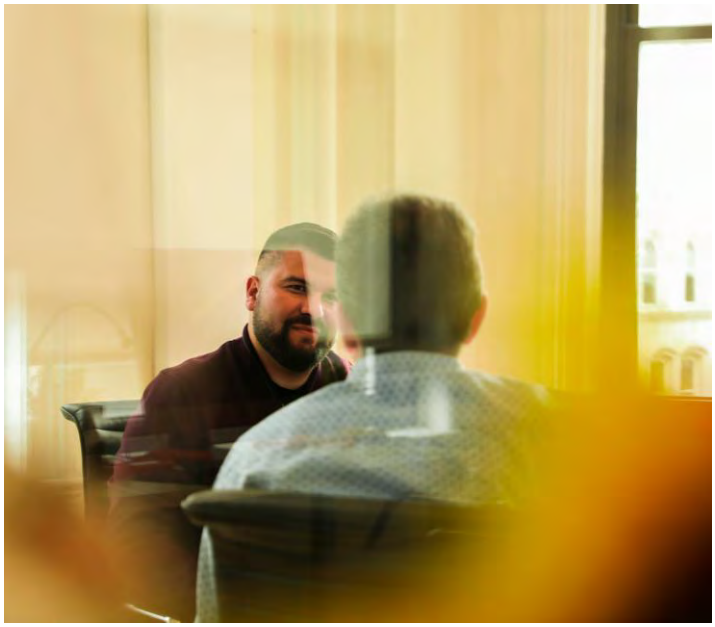
SECR does not have to be treated as a once-a-year compliance exercise.
The data needed for the report can also support better day-to-day energy management.

- spot changes or anomalies in energy performance;
- build meaningful energy and carbon performance indicators;
- measure the impact of completed energy-saving projects;
- improve the quality and consistency of energy data;
- support ESOS action planning and progress reporting;
- prioritise future investment; and
- provide a stronger evidence base for wider carbon and sustainability reporting.

How can JRP help?

JRP can support organisations with both SECR compliance and the wider management and reduction of energy use and carbon emissions.

- SECR scope and reporting-boundary reviews;
- energy-data collation, checking and validation;
- energy and greenhouse gas calculations;
- preparation of SECR disclosures and supporting records;
- development of meaningful intensity ratios;
- review of energy-efficiency actions and year-on-year performance;
- integration of SECR with ESOS and wider energy-management activity; and
- identification, prioritisation and implementation of energy-saving opportunities.



Any questions? Need help with SECR? Give us a call on (+44) 07534 613 038 or email info@jrpsolutions.com.

Reference sources:

HM Treasury, Sustainability Reporting Guidance 2025-26 - current SECR thresholds and scope.

Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, 2026 Post-Implementation Review of the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting Regulations 2018, published 26 May 2026.

Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, Greenhouse gas reporting: conversion factors 2026, published 11 June 2026 and updated 31 July 2026.

This factsheet is intended as general guidance and is not legal advice. Organisations should check the latest legislation and Government guidance for their circumstance.