

# SAVE STEEL, BUY BRITISH: A GUIDE FOR MAYORS AND LOCAL COUNCILS



If you've signed the [Save Steel, Buy British](#) pledge, or want to sign it, here's what you can do.

## BACKGROUND

Britain's steel producers and workers need your support. In a volatile global market, it is more important than ever that the UK steel industry is backed to protect jobs, skills and investment. While the sector is committed to transitioning to low carbon steelmaking, it needs time and sustained demand from the UK construction sector to make that transition happen.

However, many councils are now setting carbon targets as part of planning and consent processes that can only be met by imported steel. This risks supporting overseas producers at the expense of jobs, skills and investment in their own communities, while delivering no additional climate benefit.

## WHY YOUR SUPPORT MATTERS

Mayors and councils help sustain skilled employment, secure local supply chains and back a just transition to net zero. Public bodies account for roughly 40-50% of UK construction spending, which means your decisions directly shape the market for steel used across major projects.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP:

- 1** Mandate the use of UK steel in all public sector and local authority funded projects.
- 2** Encourage the construction sector in your region to support UK steel producers and sign the pledge to Save Steel, Buy British.
- 3** Review planning criteria for private schemes to ensure embodied carbon targets do not inadvertently disqualify UK produced steel.
- 4** Review the funding criteria for publicly funded schemes and issue a notice to contractors to exclude steel from project carbon calculations.
- 5** Contribute to genuine climate impact by supporting the decarbonisation of the UK steel industry and discouraging short term switching by contractors to imported EAF steel, which has zero positive impact on global emissions.

To find out more, visit [britishsteel.co.uk/who-we-are/save-steel-buy-british](https://britishsteel.co.uk/who-we-are/save-steel-buy-british)

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