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CONNECTING THE DOTS: PRODUCT ENVIRONMENTAL DATA SNAPSHOT — A Data Visualisation of the UK Electrification Supply Chain —

October 2026

Foreword



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This second snapshot in our Connecting the Dots series highlights the impact that the current product environmental data landscape has on UK manufacturers.

Product environmental data needs to be effective for both those requesting the information and those producing it.

As demand grows, manufacturers are investing time and resources into producing this information, but the lack of consistency in terminology, methodologies and reporting expectations is creating inefficiencies.

This snapshot highlights where these challenges exist and where greater alignment could improve confidence, comparability and impact across the supply chain.”

Yselkla Farmer
CEO



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Setting the Scene

Product environmental data is becoming an increasingly important feature of UK industrial policy and commercial decision-making. However, as the use of environmental information has expanded, the current landscape and demand have developed faster than the adoption of common approaches, creating challenges around consistency, comparability and practical use.

The UK Government has recognised these challenges in steel, cement and concrete and has committed to developing an Embodied Emissions Reporting Framework (EERF) for these sectors. Although the EERF is initially focused on these sectors, its approach could influence wider expectations for embodied emissions data.

This snapshot brings the manufacturer perspective into focus, for those producing the data and information, outlining the shared understanding of the challenges and opportunities ahead, as well as the progress already made.

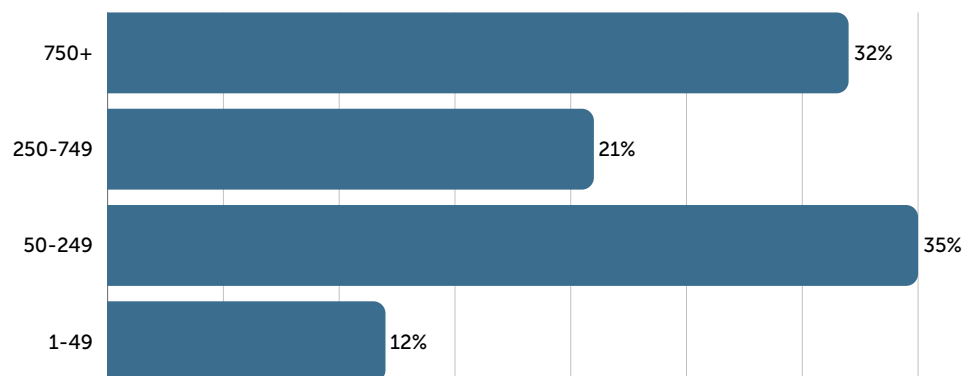
Who We Heard From

The organisations contributing to this report represent a diverse range of the electrification supply chain, from power distribution to the built environment.

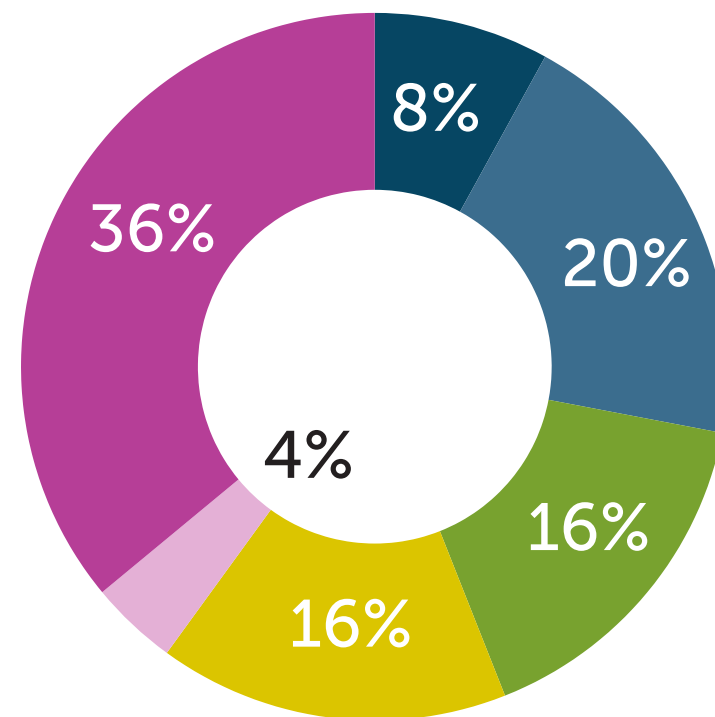
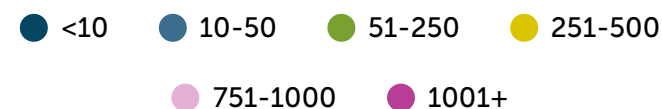
Our first **Connecting the Dots Snapshot** gave an overview of how these manufacturers manage emissions reporting and the size of their dedicated sustainability teams.

Often, product related sustainability requests also go to the same teams who are already managing emissions reporting and organisational requirements, which can compound the challenges, as team size and structure shape how organisations can respond to the growing expectations for organisational and product data.

Participating Company Size (Employees):



Number of active product lines manufactured or placed on the market:



Current Market Demand

Organisations frequently have to use multiple approaches to collect and report product environmental data to fulfil requests.

Most participating companies report receiving requests for some form of product environmental data. This can lead to a variety of results that are not always comparable.

The challenge is therefore not whether the data is in demand, but how requests can be fulfilled efficiently and consistently across a growing number of use cases.

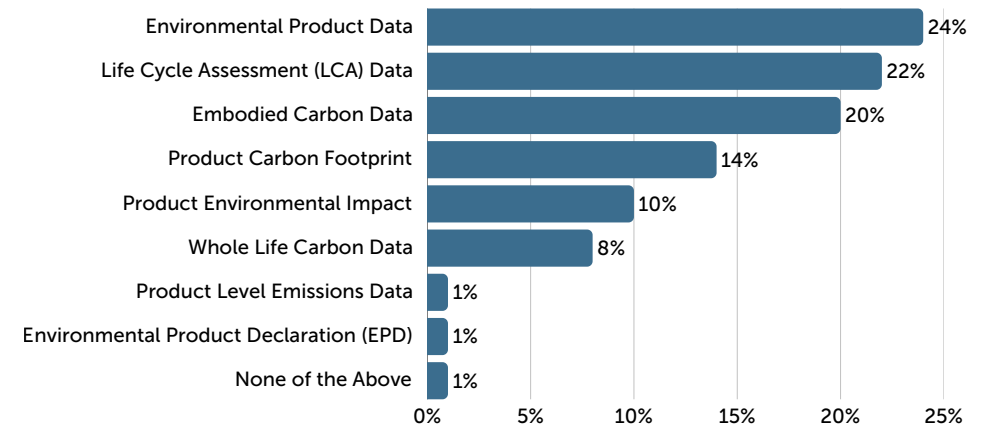
88% say their organisation receives requests for product environmental data.

Whilst the findings confirm that demand for product environmental data is present, they also show that customers use several overlapping terms. "Environmental product data", "Life-cycle assessment data" and "embodied carbon data" account for the largest share of selections; a broad range of other descriptions are also used.



The spread of terminology shows that whilst similar words are used, requests are not expressed through consistent market language.

Established terms are also sometimes used interchangeably, despite referring to different information.



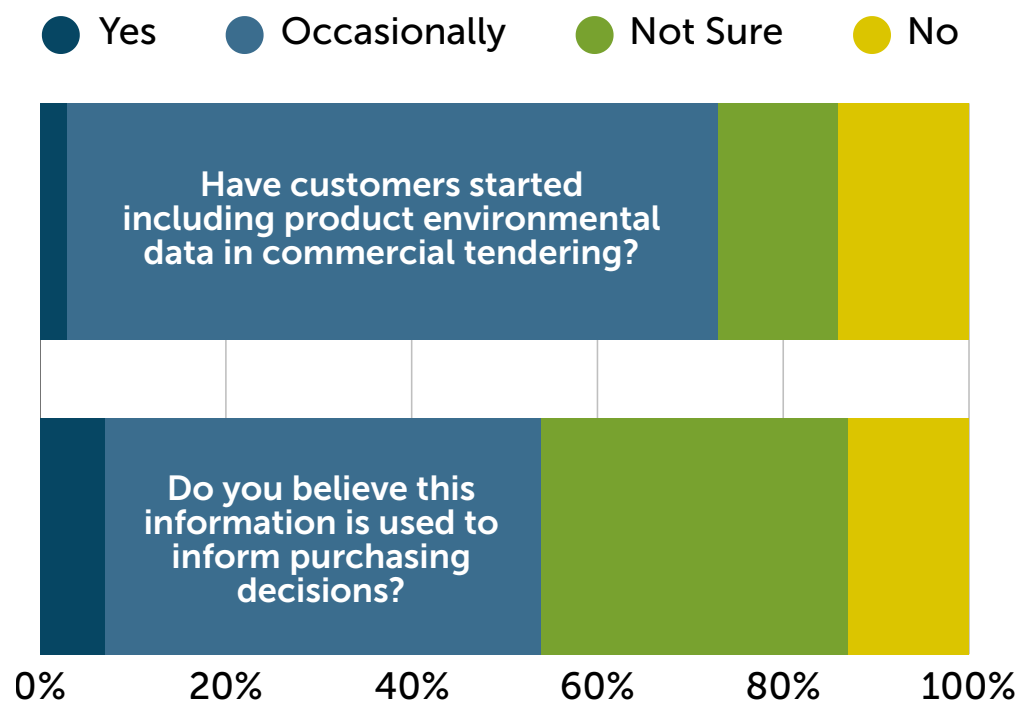
Terminology used in requests

For example, LCA may be used where only embodied carbon is required. This can create uncertainty about what is being requested and how it should be provided.



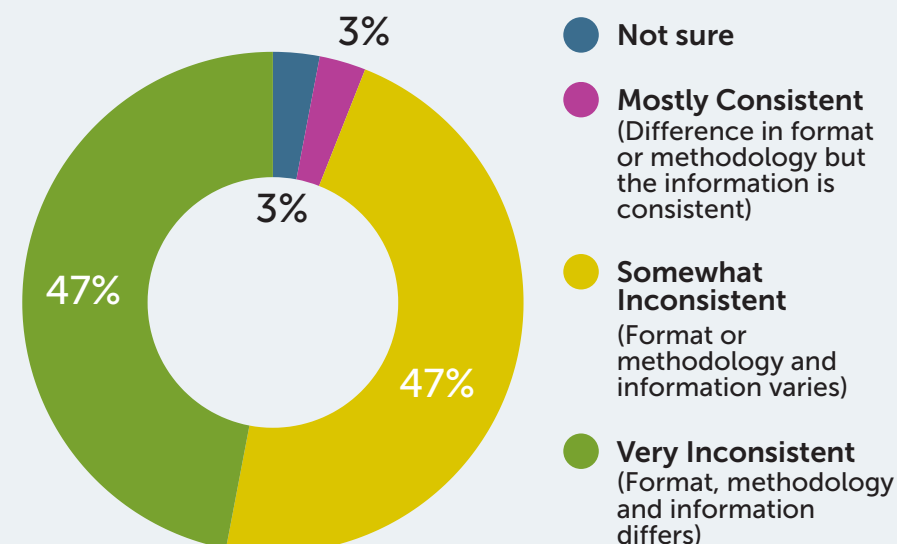
Despite these challenges, environmental information is entering tendering processes.

Manufacturers are less certain about whether this information is being used to inform procurement decisions, suggesting a gap between the data being requested or provided and being acted upon.



Half of valid responses indicated that they were not confident that requestors understand the data provided.

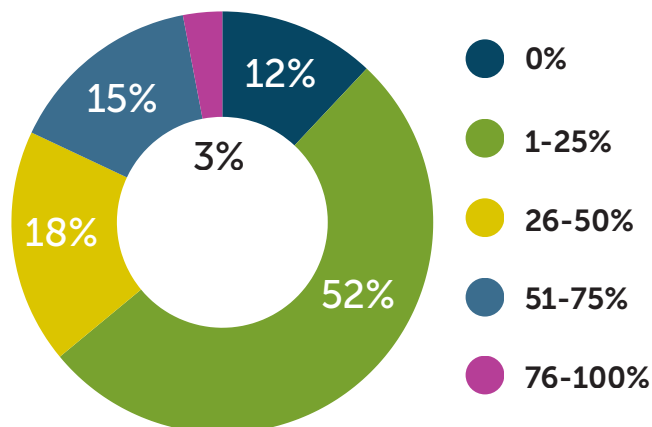
How consistent are customer requirements or requests for data?



94% of respondents report customer requirements are somewhat or very inconsistent.

This low confidence, coupled with requirements being described as somewhat or very inconsistent, and overall understanding of the distinction between embodied carbon and life cycle assessment is more commonly rated poor than good, shows that whilst progress has been made at product-level reporting, the range of challenges and lack of standardised approaches continues to add complexities for manufacturers.

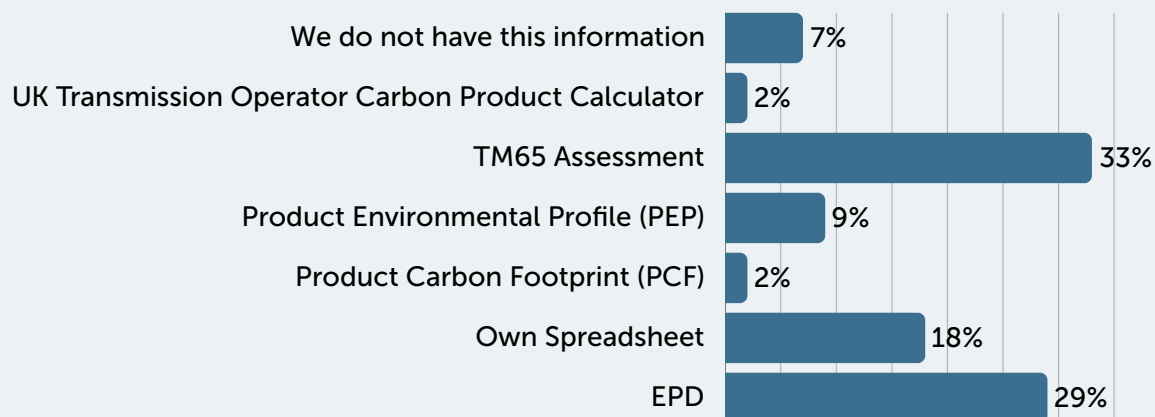
Manufacturer Data Provision



Estimated percentage of products with environmental data available

Manufacturers are responding to increasing demand for environmental data across diverse and often extensive product portfolios.

The scale of this challenge varies considerably. **36%** of manufacturers surveyed reported placing more than 1,000 products on the market, meaning that approaches to data provision need to be scalable and proportionate across large and diverse product ranges.

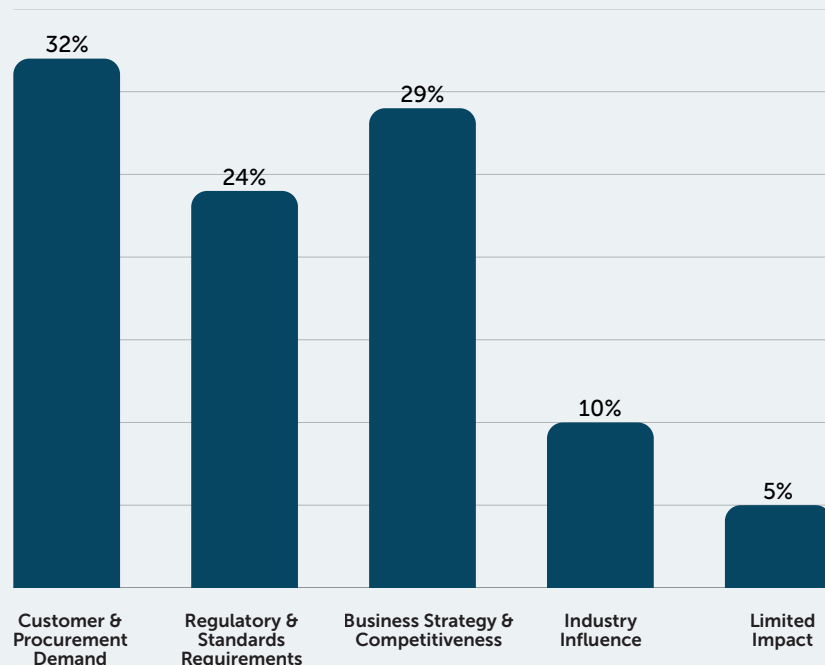


A range of approaches are used to generate this data, with TM65 assessments, EPDs and internal calculations among the most commonly reported.

This variety reflects the different requirements manufacturers are responding to, with data produced in multiple formats and using different methodologies rather than through a single consistent approach.

Manufacturers generate this data in response to a range of internal and external drivers, using a combination of in-house expertise and external support.

Drivers influencing product environmental data provision*



These drivers indicate that whilst customers and tendering requirements are driving manufacturers to undertake product life cycle analysis and product data, internal and regulatory drivers are also a key consideration for this work and can influence the approach taken.

Of the respondents calculating this data:



Verification is also becoming a part of manufacturers' approach to environmental data, with **66%** of respondents either currently using verification or planning to introduce it.

The reported cost of producing this data varies by approach and verification level, with EPD assessments associated with higher average median costs than TM65 self-assessments and other self-declared approaches.

The additional uplift from self-declared assessment to third-party verification is on average **£3,240** per product**.

Key Challenges

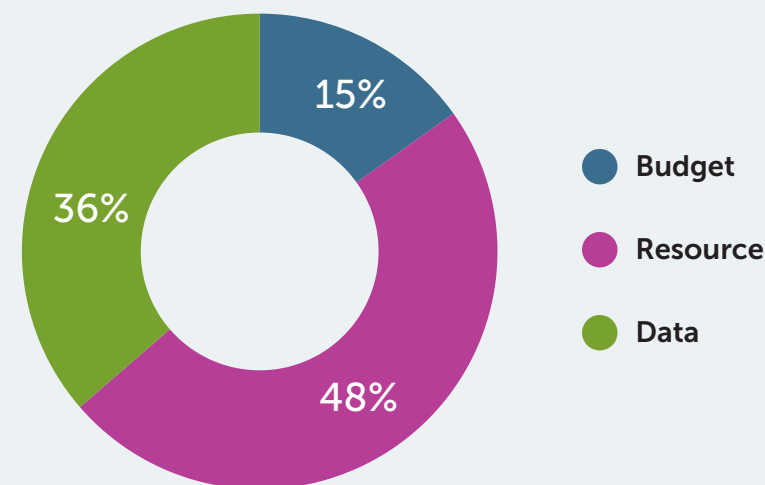
Manufacturers have identified barriers that are consistently presented throughout this report, including inconsistent requests, varying methodologies, limited understanding, and resource constraints.

Internal barriers can be grouped into three relevant categories: budget constraints, resource constraints, and data-related barriers, while external barriers include inconsistency, lack of understanding, and regulatory challenges.

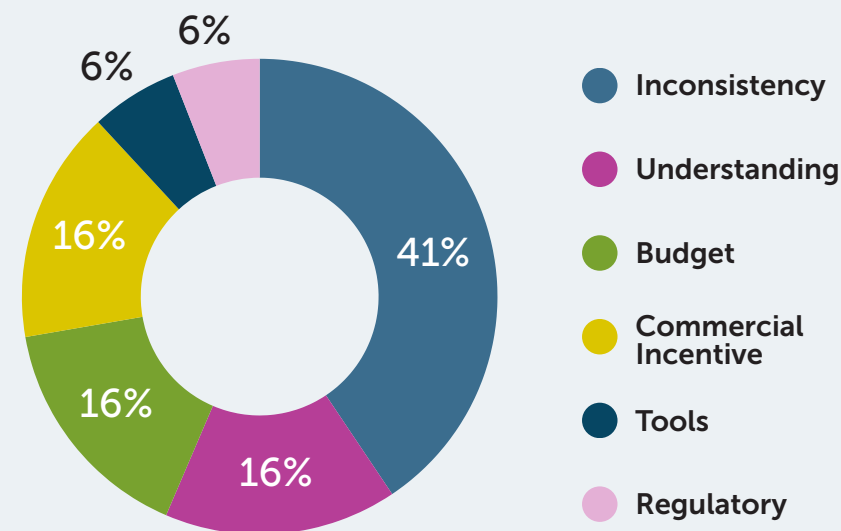
The findings show that the internal barriers at product level mirror some of the organisational level challenges reported in the first **Connecting the Dots report**; the challenges are not solely associated with the production of data itself, but with the lack of alignment surrounding how that data is requested, presented and used.

The lack of alignment adds to the low confidence in how the data is used, with **50%** of respondents reporting they were not confident that requesters understand the data they have provided. This lack of confidence then compounds the internal challenges, where the commercial justification for the time and cost of producing this data is needed.

Internal Barriers



External Barriers



Key Findings & Recommendations



Throughout this report and data, a key finding is that demand for product environmental data is increasing across the market, regulation and internal reporting; this demand is increasing faster than alignment in how that information is defined, requested, presented and used.

Demand is established



Manufacturers are investing

Demand is not matched
by consistency

Alignment is the need and
the opportunity

Our **key principles** to help achieve actionable product environmental data are:

Trusted Verification

Robust and credible environmental information without disproportionate cost burdens, avoiding unnecessary costs for manufacturers and consumers.

Flexibility for Complex Products

Frameworks that reflect complex systems, supply chains and product lifecycles, which supporting technological innovation.

Comparable and Reusable Data

One trusted methodology that enables environmental data to be collected once and used across multiple reporting and policy requirements.

Environmental and Economic Progress

Ambition and international alignment that strengthens UK competitiveness.

For publicly available resources, templates,
podcasts and more on getting Product
Environmental Data right.

Visit the PED Campaign Page →



Looking Ahead

Product environmental data is just one part of the wider sustainability journey. As the transition to Net Zero accelerates, new and evolving areas will continue to shape supply chains.

This report is part of a series, using data to showcase status, impact and action. Our next report will explore businesses' focus on decarbonisation and their investment intentions in this area.

The BEAMA 2050 Connected community creates impact by turning your insight into influence and action. Want to be part of it? Find out more and connect with BEAMA today.

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