Your 90-day resilience action plan

Practical actions to build resilience immediately for any NZ business - following our May 2026 webinar:
How to future-proof your business and build long-term resilience in response to the fuel increases.

Developed collboratively with the Sustainable Business Network & the Sustainable Business Council

DAYS 1-30
Understand & assess

ENERGY & ELECTRIFICATION

- Book a free energy audit (EECA funded)
- Identify your top 3 energy cost centres, i.e. fleet fuel, electricity, or gas heating
- Map your fleet routes and daily kms
- Review how you schedule operations and use your fleet - optimise before you invest
- Talk to your landlord early - frame energy efficiency as an asset value increase for them

SUPPLY CHAIN & CONTRACTS

- Rethink where your supplies come from - if they are in a global supply chain, identify what could be sourced locally or regionally.
- Do a materiality assessment for fuel and energy security - know which parts of your business are most exposed and prioritise there.
- Identify where fuel costs are hitting your business hardest - logistics, inputs, or your own operations.
- For each key input, assess how exposed the supply lane is and whether a local alternative exists.
- Talk to your bank about green finance options
- Check your supplier contracts for fuel escalation clauses where you may be absorbing cost rises that could be renegotiated.
- Map top customers' industries & chat to them - if they are also fuel-exposed, their order volumes and payment terms may come under pressure.

WASTE & TRAVEL

- Audit your waste disposal - if charged by weight, every kilogram cut is a direct cost saving.
- Pull the last 12 months of travel spend and identify which trips could have been a video call.

COMMUNITY

- Connect with a business community. I.e. SBN, SBC, S360, a regional network, an industry association, or a network you already belong to but are not fully using. You need peer support and knowledge while you are figuring out where to start or where to go next. Isolation is the enemy of resilience.

DAYS 30-60
Prioritise & prepare

ENERGY & ELECTRIFICATION

- Get three quotes for priority electrification area
- Apply for available funding & grants
- Choose a pilot with the lowest risk and fastest ROI - one vehicle, one site, one building.
- Plan charging & power infrastructure needs
- Consider solar as a service - no upfront cost, electricity at 20-40% below market rates, fixed 2.5% annual increase.
- Explore fleet leasing - maintenance included, capital spread over time, vehicles always current.
- When renewing your tenancy, negotiate energy efficiency commitments into the lease.

SUPPLY CHAIN & CONTRACTS

- Look at where you can renegotiate fuel-linked supplier contracts.
- Ask major customers if they would co-fund resilience improvements that protect their supply continuity.
- Talk to your freight forwarder about consolidating deliveries - fewer, fuller loads cuts cost and emissions.
- Check which products and services are still making margin after fuel and freight cost increases.

WASTE & TRAVEL

- Adjust pricing proactively - communicate cost increases to customers before they ask.
- Make virtual-first the default - travel should require justification, not the reverse.
- Switch all taxi and car transfer services to Uber Electric only - simple policy change, lower cost
- Pick one waste action this month - lock bins, switch to transparent liners, remove disposable products etc.
- Exporters: Contact your NZTE relationship manager for support navigating the current environment.

DAYS 60-90
Implement & embed

ENERGY & ELECTRIFICATION

- Implement pilot - measure baseline versus results
- Build a 12-month roadmap with projected cost and saving for each action - then set your sights on 3 and 5 years.
- Reimburse staff for home EV charging costs - the key to genuine buy-in.

GETTING BUY-IN

- Talk to your team about why you are making these changes - a 10-minute 2-way conversation beats any policy document.
- Celebrate early wins with staff and customers before the big results arrive - frequent positive feedback and small rewards keep momentum going during the journey, not just at the destination.
- Focus on short-term benefits when communicating change - "less waste means lower disposal costs we can reinvest in the team" lands better than long-term climate messaging.
- Make progress visible inside the business - a simple dashboard or whiteboard tracking energy, waste, and travel spend keeps the team connected to the goal.

SUPPLY CHAIN

- Ask your top three suppliers what they are doing about fuel resilience - their cost increases will flow to you if they are not acting.

COMMUNITY

- Share what you have learned with your network (SBN, SBC, S360, regional, industry etc.) the community, and your company, gets stronger when everyone contributes.

RESOURCES

- SBN's Electrify Business page
- Sustainable Business Council
- NZTE Financial advice for exporters
- SBN's Circular Economy Directory
- EECA energy audit info
- NZTE Middle East conflict resources
- MBIE National fuel plan - phases
- Sector impacts for exporters - freight/logistics