



## **The Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales**

### **Climate strategy**

#### **Introduction and background**

The UK Climate Act, 2019 enshrined into UK law the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change. In October 2020, the City of London Corporation published its Climate Action Plan for 2020-27, including an intention for the Square Mile to achieve net zero emissions by 2040.

In 2021, the City of London Livery Companies came together to prepare a combined response to this challenge and to support the City of London Climate Strategy. Following an initial seminar in 2021, the Livery Climate Action Group was formed with Alderman Alison Gowman CBE as its Chair.

The Chartered Accountants Company is a member of the LCAG.

Court has decided that it is timely to record how the Company is working to reduce carbon emissions.

#### **The Company's climate strategy**

The Company supports our suppliers, fellow livery companies and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales ("the Institute") in their efforts to reduce the environmental damage of operating real estate and providing services to the Company.

The Company is a low carbon operation and is conscious that in reducing our carbon emissions we are reliant on many third-party suppliers. The Company where practical and proportionate will consider the climate strategy of our suppliers in carrying out our Company activities.

#### *Events*

The Company does not own any real estate and so it is dependent on the use of space owned principally by other livery companies and the Institute.



## **The Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales**

Where practical menus for lunches and dinners will be selected from UK and near Europe grown produce that have a seasonal focus. Attention to origin and seasonality limits carbon emissions.

Where practical tap water will be served in meetings and with meals to eliminate disposable containers and transport related emissions.

Where practical, where flowers are used guests will be offered flowers to take home on conclusion of the relevant event to allow extended enjoyment of arrangements.

### *Meetings*

Short meetings will be held on-line and longer meetings or series of meetings may be held in person (with virtual attendance offered as appropriate). The Company seeks to balance carbon efficiency with fraternity associated with in-person meetings.

### *Company, Court and Committee papers*

For Company printed items, consideration will be given to sustainably sourced and/or recycled and recyclable materials.

Court and Committee papers are circulated electronically via the intranet.

Members are discouraged from unnecessary printing of documents. Where practical electronic options will be considered to reduce the number of individual printed items.

### *Travel*

Most livery meetings and events are held in the City of London and members are encouraged to use public transport where safe and practical.

### *Charity activities*

The Chartered Accountants' Livery Charity ("Livery Charity") receives regular reports from its fund managers addressing ESG considerations. The investment policy balances environmental and social considerations with its duty to maximise the return on investments.



## **The Worshipful Company of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales**

The Company will encourage the Livery Charity to consider making a donation to a charity that is focused on environmental projects which support the reduction in carbon emissions.

### *Carbon emission reporting*

Chartered Accountants have a particular role to play in reporting on carbon emissions in annual reports and accounts. The Company supports its members' professional obligations to report accurately.

Approved by Court on: 7 October 2024