



THE WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF GLASS SELLERS OF LONDON

Sustainability Action Plan



Introduction

The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London is committed to playing its part in addressing the global climate crisis through meaningful and measurable sustainability actions. As a Livery Company without a hall, our influence lies in our choices, partnerships, and advocacy. The Glass Sellers' Sustainability Action Plan outlines our strategic priorities to reduce carbon emissions, promote ethical practices, and support the circular economy.

Objectives

Our ambition aligns with the City of London Corporation's Climate Action Strategy, which sets out a bold vision to achieve net zero carbon emissions across the Square Mile by 2040, and within its own operations by 2027. The Strategy is underpinned by a fully funded programme of climate projects focused on buildings, supply chains, financial investments, and open spaces. It champions sustainable growth and climate resilience and encourages collaboration across sectors and communities.

By aligning our efforts with this city-wide strategy, we aim to contribute to the transformation of London into a global leader in sustainability. Through responsible procurement, ethical investment, stakeholder engagement, and educational outreach, we seek to support the City's journey toward net zero and a resilient future.



The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London also aligns its sustainability efforts with the broader ambitions of the UK glass and glazing sector and the leading organizations who are driving innovation and progress toward net zero and a circular economy across the United Kingdom and within the City of London:

British Glass Manufacturers' Confederation: Developed a Net Zero Strategy to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050, including fuel switching, energy efficiency, and recycling infrastructure.

Glass Futures: Pioneering scalable solutions for zero-carbon glass manufacturing, including hydrogen-fueled furnaces, recycled materials, and automation technologies.

Glass & Glazing Federation (GGF): Advocates for the role of glazing in energy-efficient buildings, post-consumer recycling and inclusion in national sustainability schemes.

Contemporary Glass Society: Promotes sustainable practices among glass artists and makers, encouraging reuse, recycling, and low-energy techniques.

Sustainability Action Areas

1. Sustainable Procurement and Vendor Engagement

We will actively encourage the selection of suppliers, host halls, and venues with sustainability policies and climate action plans for carbon emissions reduction.

The company where practical and proportionate will consider climate action and sustainability strategies of suppliers in carrying out our Company activities. Our procurement decisions will consider:

- i. Carbon Reduction: Preference for vendors with clear carbon emissions reduction strategies.
- ii. Ethical Standards: Compliance with social and employment legislation, including policies on equality, diversity, the Living Wage, and modern slavery.

- iii. Sustainable Catering: In selecting locations and catering arrangements, we will select menu choices that lean towards local, seasonal and sustainable food sources in UK and near shore where possible.
- iv. We will encourage the use of reusable glass bottles or carafes for table water (filtered still and sparkling).



2. Waste Reduction and Recycling

We aim to minimize waste and avoid/reduce the use of single-use plastics wherever possible. Our goals include:

- i. Zero Waste to Landfill: Promote reuse and recycling practices across all events and activities.
- ii. Request catering suppliers to minimize food waste and consider supporting food waste recycling schemes, for instance City Harvest.
- iii. Digital Communications: Reduce environmental impact from printing and postage by prioritizing electronic communications and digital event materials.

3. Sustainable Transport and Event Planning

To reduce emissions associated with travel and events, we will:

- i. Virtual Meetings: Avoid unnecessary travel for company meetings, outside of Court and Charity Trustee meetings, by encouraging virtual and hybrid meetings and events whenever possible and practical. Target 80% of such meetings to be virtual.
- ii. Venue Selection: Choose locations for meetings, events & dinners that have easy public and low emission transport options, encouraging car sharing by members who live in close proximity to reduce carbon emissions.
- iii. Event Timing: Schedule dinners and events to conclude at a reasonable hour to facilitate the choice for members and guests to take public transport and low emission transport options where practical and reasonable..

4. Ethical Investment Strategy

We will:

- i. work with our investment managers to ensure our financial holdings incorporate Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) principles through a multi-layered approach that balances ethical exclusions, climate risk analysis, and active engagement.
- ii. engage with fund managers to understand their efforts in promoting and influencing ethical behaviors and sustainability within sectors and industries that they invest.

- iii. Ensure our Ethical Investment Strategy, whilst leaning towards environmental and governance factors, is considerate of sustainability of wealth creation to ensure the Livery Company and the Charity thrive and prosper in order to continue fulfil their missions.

5. Stakeholder Engagement, Education and Outreach

We will leverage our glass industry and artisan networks and relationships to drive better awareness, understanding and actions necessary to drive sustainability, to reduce carbon emissions and encourage a thriving circular economy:

- i. **Industry Collaboration:** In close partnership with the British Glass Manufacturers' Confederation, the Glass & Glazing Federation and Glass Futures foster, promote and enable innovation, carbon emissions reduction and sustainability across the wider glass and glazing sector and its upstream contribution to UK industries, businesses and consumers.
- ii. **Government Influence:** Through the UK Glass & Glass Collective seek to influence UK and regional government and advisors to make optimal decisions on sustainability, net zero and circular economy government strategy and policies.
- iii. **City of London Climate Action Group:** we shall actively participate and collaborate with City of London Action Group attending events and conferences, undertaking actions where practical and relevant to realize.
- iv. **Member Engagement:** Encourage members to share best practices and sustainability solutions across Livery Companies and broader networks.
- v. **Charitable Support:** Promote sustainable CO2 reducing actions through charitable support in schools and education that supports glass and glazing recycling awareness, issues of contamination in glass stream and energy.
- vi. **Educational Resources:** Explore the development and distribution of sustainability education packs for schools in collaboration with glass and glazing industry and artisan communities.



Monitoring and Review

Progress will be monitored through regular reporting to the Court, Glass Committee and relevant committees. We will:

- i. Survey members and guests on travel habits.
- ii. Track the proportion of virtual meetings.
- iii. Review supplier sustainability credentials.
- iv. Evaluate our investment portfolio against ESG benchmarks.

Conclusion

The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London is committed to integrating sustainability into all aspects of its operations. Through responsible procurement, ethical investment, member engagement, and educational outreach, we aim to contribute meaningfully to sustainability and environmental stewardship.

The Worshipful Company of Glass Sellers of London Sustainability Action Plan was approved at the Glass Sellers' Court Meeting held at the Butchers' Hall, London on Tuesday 17th March 2026.

Master Matthew Demmon,

Company Clerk Paul Wenham

Liveryman & Court Assistant Stuart Hakes (Chair of Glass Committee)