

GOLDSMITHS' CLIMATE ACTION PLAN

(To be published on GSC & Livery Climate Action Group websites; for use with suppliers & events clients).

The Goldsmiths' Group (GSC), made up of the Goldsmiths' Company, Goldsmiths' Centre and London Assay Office, is a membership organisation that contributes to national life through the training of jewellers, silversmiths and the allied trades; the protection of consumers by testing and hallmarking precious metals; and our work with charitable, educational and cultural partners in support of the goldsmithing industry and improving life chances across the UK. The GSC will build on our history and traditions whilst adapting for the future, taking the long view and using our enduring values and resources to be good ancestors for future generations of goldsmiths. As a modern Livery our environmental goals are to reduce the emissions and waste generated by our business activities to as close to zero as possible with a focus on food waste, paper, single-use plastic and our data and online footprints.

Based across 4 sites in St Paul's, Farringdon, Hatton Garden and Heathrow, the GSC employs approximately 200 full-time staff who manage our Foundation, membership, hallmarking, education and training, selling fair, exhibitions, events CIC and associated activities. As one of the Twelve Great Livery Companies of the City of London, the Goldsmiths' is governed by the Court of Assistants, which is equivalent to a Board and is responsible for overseeing Company activities, risk and strategy. The permanent staff, headed by the CEO and Clerk, runs the organisation on a day-to-day basis for the Court of Assistants.

Environmental sustainability is a golden thread which underpins all GSC activity. Accordingly, responsibility for this area of work sits at Court level. The GSC takes its industry, Livery, City of London, Greater London and national responsibilities seriously and, as such, is a member of the Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG), an inter-Livery initiative focused on assisting Livery Companies and Guilds to manage their impacts.

The GSC aims to reduce the carbon emissions and wider environmental impacts of our BUSINESS, PRACTICES and FINANCES to as close to zero as possible, and to foster a more responsible and sustainable approach to the use of the planet's scarce resources. GSC will do this by equipping our staff and key stakeholders with the knowledge and skills required to undertake Goldsmiths' activity responsibly; and to empower the goldsmithing industry to make environmental sustainability a fundamental part of their own practice. This Climate Action Plan details the GSC's goals and approach towards reducing its impacts and will be shared with key stakeholders to encourage the same.

From 2025, the GSC will report annually on GSC impacts, our progress towards our goals, and our updated targets based on current best practice. We will ensure compliance with environmental legislation as a minimum but aim to be ambitious in reaching Net Zero by the City of London target (2040) rather than the UK Government target (2050).

SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS: The GSC will reduce, or manage the impacts of our buildings (Goldsmiths' Hall, London Assay Office, AO Sub-Offices, Goldsmiths' Centre, and what it takes to run these buildings) by:

1. Reducing our direct and indirect carbon emissions to as close to zero as possible, by establishing baseline data, setting milestones for reductions and regularly reviewing progress.
2. Assessing the energy efficiency of our buildings to identify how the demand for energy use can be reduced and efficiency improved.
3. Identifying sustainable sources of energy and creating an energy management strategy.
4. Reviewing our waste policies and practices to increase re-use and recycling.
5. Reducing our per capita water consumption and wastewater discharges.
6. Strengthening our requirements on and engagement with suppliers to build low-carbon, resilient and circular supply chains and embed principles of the circular economy and reuse of materials into construction and procurement activities.

7. Valuing the importance of green spaces and urban greening as natural carbon sinks, and contributing to biodiversity and overall wellbeing, by “greening” our premises where possible and by supporting other organisations to do so.
8. Reducing the carbon intensity of any capital projects or maintenance through life-cycle carbon accounting applied to all stages from design through to demolition or anticipated re-purposing.
9. Reducing the risk of flooding through developing sustainable rain and surface-water management.

SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES: The GSC will reduce, or manage the impacts of our day-to-day practices (including Goldsmiths’ Foundation & our philanthropic work, Goldsmiths’ Fair, Hallmarking, education & skills training) and support the goldsmithing industry to do the same by:

1. Empowering our staff to engage with environmental issues within their area of responsibility via ongoing communication and training.
2. Taking into account the travel needs and modes of our employees, members and visitors and identifying sustainable transport.
3. Strengthening our requirements on and engagement with suppliers to build low-carbon, resilient and circular supply chains and embed principles of the circular economy and reuse of materials into operational activities.
4. Reducing our use of virgin materials, especially paper, and shifting our buildings and activities to avoid single-use materials where possible.
5. Collaborating with our catering and events partners to adopt proactive and continuous improvement in food supply chains, menu choices, and food waste management, leading to more sustainable and healthier internal, Livery, membership and commercial events.
6. Using our resources and knowledge to engage with and empower our key stakeholders through training, research & debate to promote best practice and knowledge-sharing about sustainability, climate change and the jewellery, silversmithing and allied industries so that they too can adapt.
7. Drawing on the expertise of our members, partners and suppliers to leverage expertise and to make learning and best practice (regarding standards, tools, platforms and expertise etc.) publicly available to facilitate sustainable development.
8. Encouraging and inspiring our members and networks to follow our lead within their own organisations and practices.

SUSTAINABLE FINANCE: The GSC will reduce, or manage the impacts of our investments assets and capital procurement by:

1. Reviewing our property and investment portfolios considering Environmental, Social and Governance good practice and alignment with the Paris Agreement on climate change.
2. Strengthening our requirements on and engagement with suppliers to build low-carbon, resilient and circular supply chains and embed principles of the circular economy and reuse of materials into construction and procurement activities.
3. Embedding resilience measures into ownership, occupation and upgrade plans for all our property.
4. Reducing the carbon intensity of any capital projects and maintenance through life-cycle carbon accounting applied to all stages from design through to demolition or anticipated re-purposing.
5. Building climate resilience into all our decisions and activities by considering how to mitigate, and adapt to, the effects of climate change such as storms, temperature extremes and flooding.
6. Safeguard assets & investments by identifying & mitigating future environmental changes & risks.

The Goldsmiths’ has produced this Climate Action Plan in adherence with Livery Climate Action Group guidance. As an LCAG member the Goldsmiths’ is committed to sharing good practice and encouraging and supporting our key stakeholders in this.

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