

# Are we prepared ?



## LIVERY CLIMATE ACTION GROUP ANNUAL CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2026

Venue: Merchant Taylors' Hall, Threadneedle Street, EC2R 8JB

**Alderman Alison Gowman, CBE**

**Chair of the Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG)**

Welcome to the 4th Livery Climate Action Group Conference.



*Taking the theme of 'Are we prepared?' we will be looking at the challenges posed to our sustainable future by financial risks; extreme weather and its impact on infrastructure and our daily lives; the resilience of our buildings and the retrofitting needed; and our essential food supply chain and operations.*

*There is plenty of time to circulate and network and to view the displays by the five wonderful schools who are participating this year.*

*We are grateful to those who have made the Conference as energising as I anticipate it will be. Your attendance is key to hearing and learning more, but also to challenging and sharing your expertise.*

*Thanks also to the sponsors: the Merchant Taylors' Livery for gifting us the use of the Hall; financial help from the Drapers' Livery; the University of the Built Environment; and the City of London Corporation.*

*LCAG exists to support the City Corporation in its ambition towards net zero, creating a resilient City and ensuring sustainable growth. Each LCAG member, being a Livery Company or a City organisation, responds in its own way and we encourage that unique exploration of response and innovation.*

*We are undertaking a survey of our members to update our understanding of the progress made to date and then we will share the stories of engagement whether they relate to work by individual Livery members or with affiliates and schools or engaging with professions, trades and crafts. We have held in-person conferences since 2022 and last year held our first AGM for the representatives of the Livery. Our regular newsletters and online events provide insights and ideas and we regularly engage with the City Corporation and others to give assistance and support or to work on pilot projects.*

*Thanks for choosing to spend this day with LCAG.*

10.00	<p><b>Welcome coffee/tea</b></p> <p>Throughout the day schools will be showing poster presentations of their climate action projects and also asking questions of the presenters.</p> <p><b>Bancroft's School, City of London School, La Retraite Roman Catholic Girls' School, Rokeby School and Winton Primary School.</b></p>	
10.30	<p><b>Opening of the Conference</b></p> <p><b>Alderman Alison Gowman, CBE</b></p> <p>Alison is a longstanding City lawyer and elected member of the City Corporation, serving as Alderman since 2002. Her focus is on climate action and sustainability matters both for the City and for every organisation with which she is involved.</p> <p><b>Sheriff and Deputy Keith Bottomley</b></p> <p>Keith is a former banker and elected Member of the City of London Corporation, actively leading on sustainability, climate action and broader policy agendas. He is Deputy for Bridge and Bridge Without Ward.</p> <p>He is passionate about the City of London and wants to help the businesses and people who live and work in the square mile to have every opportunity to thrive and be as successful as possible.</p> <p><b>Kate Neale</b></p> <p>Kate is Climate Programme lead for the City of London Corporation.</p> <p>She champions net zero, climate resilience and sustainable growth. She has all the data about the City's Climate Action Strategy at her fingertips.</p>	  

11.00	<p><b>Session 1 Chaired by David Chitty.</b></p> <p><b>Is the City prepared for reporting and responding to the financial risks that will result from climate change?</b></p> <p><b>Alderman and Sheriff Robert Hughes-Penney</b></p> <p>Robert is Investment Director at Rathbones, managing global multi-asset portfolios, and serving on the Board, Executive and Management Committees of the main operating company. He is Chair of TheCityUK Business Council and Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee at the Chartered Institute for Securities &amp; Investment.</p> <p><b>Mark Babington</b></p> <p>Executive Director, Regulatory Standards – Financial Reporting Council (FRC). He is a senior Regulatory Policy Specialist with Expertise in Auditing, Ethics and Independence and Corporate Governance and Stewardship.</p> <p><b>Kevin Parry, OBE</b></p> <p>Kevin is Chairman of Nationwide Building Society and Senior Financial Services Adviser to Rothschild &amp; Co. He is also chairing a start-up banking operation. He is an experienced director in financial services and professional services organisations.</p>	  
12.00	<p><b>Lunch</b></p> <p>Schools' displays continue.</p> <p><b>Sheriff Keith Bottomley presenting certificates</b></p>	

1.00	<p><b>Keynote speaker</b></p> <p><b>The Baroness Brown of Cambridge DBE FREng FRS FMedSci, Julia King</b></p> <p>Julia King, Baroness Brown of Cambridge, is a Crossbench Member of the House of Lords. Her interests are in climate change and technology.</p> <p>Her presentation will focus on:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Challenges for Climate Change Adaptation</b></p>	
1.30	<p><b>Session 2 Chaired by Gordon Masterton.</b></p> <p><b>Risks to Life</b></p> <p><b>Tim Munday, MEng ACGI MCIWEM,</b></p> <p>Tim is the Lead Environmental Resilience Officer, City of London Corporation. He focusses on enhancing climate resilience in local government, especially flood risk management.</p> <p><b>Dr Pierre Masselot, Assistant Professor in Statistics and Environmental Epidemiology. London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine.</b></p> <p>Pierre's specialisms include Environment &amp; Health Modelling (EHM), the impact of temperature and air pollution on human health, and the development of statistical methods.</p>	 

2.30	<p><b>Session 3 Chaired by John Pike</b></p> <p><b>Are our buildings prepared for climate change?</b></p> <p><b>Philippa Simpson</b>, Director for Buildings and Renewal at the Barbican Centre.</p> <p>Pip has an extensive brief including overseeing the operations and facilities management of the Barbican Centre and the Guildhall School of Music &amp; Drama, as well as leading on the bold and visionary new plans for the Barbican Centre Renewal Programme. Her topic is:</p> <p><b><i>A Barbican for the Future: protecting and promoting a Brutalist icon.</i></b></p> <p><b>Dr James Ritson</b>, University of the Built Environment</p> <p>James is an architecturally-trained building conservator specialising in the sustainability of the historic built environment. He is currently a senior academic in sustainability at the University of the Built Environment.</p> <p><b>James Fisher</b></p> <p>James is Head of Strategic Partnerships at the BRE Group. He is an experienced ESG and Real Estate Sector Professional with a strong background in built asset sustainability, certification, energy efficiency and consultancy.</p> <p>Built asset resilience is no longer optional, it's a critical driver of real estate value. Resilient buildings combine physical durability with operational flexibility, energy efficiency, and healthy, adaptable environments. James's presentation will explore how certification frameworks like BREEAM turn resilience into measurable, credible value, giving investors, lenders, and occupiers confidence that a building is future-ready and will attract the strongest demand.</p>	  
3.30	<p><b>Tea and cakes</b></p>	

4.00	<p><b>Session 4 Chaired by Alison Gowman</b></p> <p><b>How fragile is our food supply chain?</b></p> <p><b>Lucinda Langton</b>, Head of Sustainability and Packaging at M&amp;S Foods</p> <p>Lucinda has more than 20 years' experience in sustainability, corporate issues management, strategy development, implementation and communications.</p> <p><b>Professor Tim Lang</b></p> <p>Tim Lang, Professor Emeritus of Food Policy, Centre for Food Policy, School of Health Sciences, City, University of London.</p> <p><b>What is the state of food resilience in the UK?</b></p>	 
5.00	<p><b>Close</b></p> <p><b>Alderman Alison Gowman, CBE</b></p>	
5.15	<p><b>Canapes and drinks</b></p>	

## LIVERY CLIMATE ACTION GROUP CONFERENCE 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2026

### SPEAKERS in Programme order

#### **Alderman Alison Gowman, CBE**

##### **Founder of the Livery Climate Action Group,**



Alison is a City Lawyer who has specialised in commercial real estate at DLA Piper. She was their first female partner and remains an active consultant. She has senior expertise in development, landlord and tenant matters, insolvency and waste management. She has been an elected member of the City Corporation since 1991 being first a Common Councillor and, since 2002, the Alderman for Dowgate Ward. She has served on most of the City's committees including as Chair of the City Bridge Trust and of the City of London School for Girls. She currently serves on the Markets Board, Bridge House Estates Board, Hampstead Heath Committee and Investment Committee. She served as Sheriff of the City of London 2021-2022. Alison has a long involvement with environmental matters and is now the City's lead member on sustainability/climate action, biodiversity and urban greening. She founded and chairs the Livery Climate Action Group that boasts over 100 members who are crafting their own plans and advocacy on climate issues. She is a Lay Canon and member of Chapter at St Paul's Cathedral. She was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Civil Law by Durham University and was honoured with a CBE in the King's Birthday Honours – both in 2024.

#### **Sheriff and Deputy Keith Bottomley, Deputy for Bridge and Bridge Without Ward, City of London**



Sheriff & Deputy Keith Bottomley is a former banker. He is an elected Member of the City of London Corporation, actively leading on sustainability, climate action, and broader policy agendas. He will serve as Sheriff of the City of London from September 2025 to September 2026. He was Deputy Chairman of the City Corporation's Policy and Resources Committee for three years until May 2025 and now chairs the Civic Affairs Committee. Keith has also chaired the Communications and Corporate Affairs Committee and the Port Health and Environment Committee. As Deputy Policy Chairman, he led the City of London BIDs Strategic Partnership and the Skills for a Sustainable Skyline Taskforce. He chairs Partnership for Young London and is a Trustee of Housing the Homeless Central Fund and Bart's Hospital Guild. Passionate about opportunities for young people and education, Keith is Deputy Chair of Governors at the City of London School. He lives near the Globe Theatre with his husband, Kevin, a Pilates teacher, and enjoys theatre, arts, and music.

## Kate Neale



Kate leads the City of London Corporation's climate programme, championing net zero, climate resilience and sustainable growth. Her team coordinates work across the Corporation to achieve net zero in the Corporation's operations by 2027, and in the value chain and Square Mile jurisdiction by 2040, while embedding climate resilience.

## David Chitty



David is a Chartered Accountant who is a member of the management team of Crowe Global, a leading network of accounting firms. David is responsible for the audit practice and development of global key accounts. He is the Renter Warden of the Horners' Company and a Court Assistant of the Chartered Accountants Company, as well as being Treasurer of LCAG. David has also held governance roles with ICAEW (Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales).

## Alderman Sheriff Robert Hughes-Penney



Robert was born in Brazil and spent some of his childhood in South Africa before returning to the UK. He attended the Haberdashers' Aske's School before graduating from Manchester Metropolitan University and the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst. Being commissioned into the 13<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup> Royal Hussars (QMO) he served in the UK, Canada and Germany before entering the City with stockbrokers Laurence Keen in 1993.

He has spent over three decades in the financial services sector, primarily as an Investment Director at Rathbones, managing global multi-asset portfolios, and serving on the Board and on the Executive and Management Committees of the main operating company. He is Chair of TheCityUK Business Council and Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee at the Chartered Institute for Securities & Investment.

In 2018 Robert was elected as Alderman for the Ward of Cheap and he serves on the Boards of the Impact Investing Institute, Morden College and the Samuel Wilson Loan Trust. Previously he was a Common Councilman and chaired the Investment Committee and the Financial Investment Board as well as serving on the Policy & Resources Committee and several other Corporation Committees.

Alongside professional responsibilities he has sought to give back through serving charities. These currently include the Army Central Fund, Templeton Education & Charity Trust, and the City Prayer Breakfast, and previously Mercy Ships UK and Trust for London.

Robert's family's connection to the City stretches back generations; forebears were bone, horn and tallow chandlers. He is a member of the Court of the Worshipful Company of Haberdashers, a Past Master of the Guild of Investment Managers and serves as Patron and President of the Ward of Cheap Club. This connection continues with two of his three children working in the City and Canary Wharf and his wife, Elspeth, a former City corporate lawyer, being a member of the Goldsmiths' Company, and of the Advisory Committee of the Sheriffs' and Recorder's Fund.

## **Mark Babington, Executive Director, Regulatory Standards – Financial Reporting Council (FRC)**



Mark leads the division responsible for the FRC's technical and public policy work covering; audit, corporate reporting, sustainability and narrative reporting; corporate governance and stewardship; actuarial and digital reporting and taxonomies.

Since 2022, Mark has been a member of the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants (IESBA) which sets the global Code of Ethics for the accountancy profession, and chairs IESBA's Sustainability Task Force, tasked with developing revisions to the International Independence Standards. He also represents the FRC on the International Sustainability Standards Board's Sustainability Standards Advisory Forum.

Mark has previously served as a Board Member and Audit Committee chair to the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, the UK public body dedicated to supporting democracy around the world.

Prior to joining the FRC's Executive Committee, Mark led the FRC's UK Audit Policy programme, to set measures to support greater competition in the UK audit market and work to support the reform of international standard setting for auditors, by global regulatory authorities.

Before he joined the FRC, Mark had a twenty-year career in audit and was a Director at the UK National Audit Office.

## Kevin Parry



Kevin Parry is Chairman of: Nationwide Building Society, the world's largest building society; the nascent banking operations of Capital.com which currently operates an international trading platform; and Marie Curie which is the UK's leading palliative care charity.

He is a non-executive director of the Daily Mail and General Trust plc and the senior financial services adviser at Rothschild & Co.

He chairs the Mutual and Co-operatives Business Council comprising ARLA, ARUP, BUPA, Co-op Group, John Lewis Partnership, Nationwide and Royal London and the trade associations serving the mutual sector. The Council was established in 2025 to assist HM Government in doubling the size of the mutual sector.

He is a member of the No.1 club which advises the Lord Mayor, the City of London Corporation and Whitehall on matters relevant to the financial services industries.

He has extensive experience in financial services encompassing banking, insurance and asset management. He was formerly the Chairman of Royal London Mutual Insurance Society, the Chairman of Intermediate Capital Group PLC, the SID of Standard Life Aberdeen plc and Audit Committee chair of Schroders plc and served on the board of Knight Frank LLP.

As an executive he was CFO of Schroders plc, Chief Executive of Management Consulting Group plc and a managing partner at KPMG.

In the not-for-profit sector he was formerly chairman of Royal SpringBoard which supports children from disadvantaged and dangerous backgrounds and was chairman of the Homes and Communities Agency (now known as Homes England).

He is a chartered accountant and Past Master of the Chartered Accountants' livery company. He read management studies at Robinson College Cambridge, having attended a State school in Swansea.

He lives in London and the Cotswolds with his family.

## The Baroness Brown of Cambridge DBE FREng FRS FMedSci, Julia King



Baroness Brown is an engineer and Crossbench Member of the House of Lords. Her career spans academia and industry: Cambridge University and Rolls-Royce plc, led to ten years as Vice-Chancellor of Aston University in Birmingham, before joining the House of Lords as a Crossbench Peer in 2016. She chaired the House of Lords Science and Technology Select Committee until January 2025, and is now a member of the Intelligence and Security Committee.

Her interests include climate change, innovation and technology. Current appointments include: Chair of BGF Cleantech Advisory Group; Chair of the Adaptation Committee of the Climate Change Committee; Chair of

Frontier IP; NED of Ørsted and of Ceres Power. Recent appointments include membership of the Government's Hydrogen Advisory Council; Climate Advisor to the Jet Zero Council; Chair of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Independent Climate Commission. From 2008 to 2022 she was vice chair of the Climate Change Committee (mitigation) and she led the King Review for the Treasury on decarbonising road transport in 2006-8.

### **Professor Gordon Masterton, OBE DL HonDEng HonDTech FREng FRSE FICE**



Gordon Masterton is Emeritus Professor of Future Infrastructure at the University of Edinburgh and a member of LCAG Executive.

He was Vice-President of Jacobs Engineering until 2015 and was President of the Institution of Civil Engineers (2005-06), Institution of Engineers in Scotland (2009-11); Chair of UK Construction Industry Council (2008-10). He established the Centre for Future Infrastructure within Edinburgh Futures Institute, bringing together arts, humanities, engineering and data science in a cross-disciplinary hub for industry/academe collaboration for complex infrastructure challenges focused on Net Zero Carbon.

Other interests include the oversight and assurance of major programmes, safety (former Chair of the Standing Committee on Structural Safety) and the learning legacy from engineering history and heritage.

He chairs Independent Assurance Panels acting for the Department for Transport, Thames Water, East West Rail and Dublin Metrolink. In 2021 he co-led a UK government study into the technical feasibility of a fixed bridge or tunnel link to Northern Ireland.

He is a contributor to TV Series such as the History Channel's Life After People; Canals: The Making of Modern Britain; Britain's Greatest Bridges, and to an episode of BBC Radio 4's "Great Lives".

### **Dr Pierre Masselot**



Pierre is Assistant Professor in Statistics and Environmental Epidemiology  
Environment & Health Modelling (EHM) Lab, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine

Pierre specialises in the impact of temperature and air pollution on human health, and the development of statistical methods.

Pierre is a statistician and environmental epidemiologist interested in the association between various environmental exposures and human health, as well as methodological and software development.

His research focusses on the effect on health of temperature and the role played by climate change in this association, as well as the effect of various air pollutants and atmospheric composition. He also proposes new methodological developments for environmental epidemiology such as constrained and Machine Learning methods to estimate health impacts in low-population settings, to develop environmental health indices or assess differences in vulnerability between populations.

Pierre led a recent investigation into excess deaths arising from the heatwave in London in June-July 2025.

### **Tim Munday, MEng ACGI MCIWEM**



Tim is the Lead Environmental Resilience Officer for the City of London Corporation. He specialises in enhancing climate resilience in local government with a focus on flood risk management.

Tim has worked at the City of London Corporation for over 10 years having joined straight from university. He leads the team responsible for the parts of the City Corporation's Climate Action Strategy focused on increasing greening in the streets of the Square Mile and mainstreaming climate resilience across the organisation.

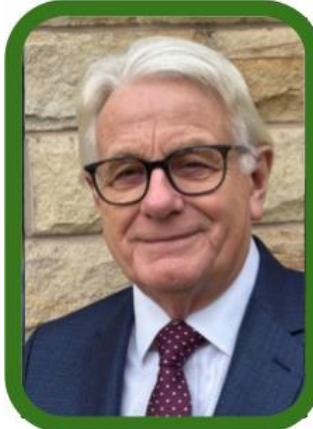
His team works on adapting the City to climate impacts covering flooding, overheating, water stress, biodiversity loss, emerging pests and diseases, and impacts on food, trade, and infrastructure. To date they have increased the resilience of over 17 200m<sup>2</sup> of green space, worked with the British Geological Survey on subsurface mapping of the Square Mile, and are coming up with innovative ways to help people think about their climate risk.

Tim led on the development of the City of London Riverside Strategy, the first strategy of its kind. It sets out how the City's local Thames flood defences could be raised over the coming decades as part of the wider Thames Estuary 2100 Plan. He continues to promote this approach through the Thames Tidal Councils Forum.

He plays an active role in a number of pan-London groups bringing together different organisations and sectors including London Council's Green and Resilient Working Group and the London Climate Ready Partnership.

Tim is a Secretary of State Appointed Member of the Broads Authority, the organisation responsible for the Broads National Park.

### **John Pike**



John spent his early career working for property consultancies in the City and the West End of London. Subsequently he embarked on a career as a Property Director for some of the UK's largest companies: British Telecommunications plc, Network Rail, HBOS plc and the Lloyds Banking Group. More recently he was a management board member of a private equity owned property and facilities management company during a period of rapid expansion. He has sat on several private, charitable and public sector boards.

Running through his career has been the thread of sustainability. Whilst at the BRE he established and chaired the International Sustainability

Alliance to focus on improving the sustainability for the members' real estate assets. He subsequently founded the 40 Percent Symposium, a sustainability conference aimed at real estate

investors and occupiers across Europe. He is a founding member of the Livery Climate Action Group and a member of the Chartered Surveyors Livery Company.

## **Philippa Simpson**



Pip is the Director for Buildings and Renewal at the Barbican Centre.

She has an extensive brief including overseeing the operations and facilities management of the Barbican Centre estate as well as leading on the bold and visionary new plans for the Barbican Centre Renewal Programme. The Barbican Centre is a globally renowned venue for the arts, a crucial public space at the heart of the City of London, and the UK's largest heritage listed site. Its adaptation and future resilience are both essential and urgent.

Previously she was Director of Design, Estate and Public programme at the V&A.

Pip will be talking about how to balance the needs of the architecture with the ambition to continue welcoming the 2 million annual visitors and 4000 residents with the protection of the heritage fabric.

## **Dr James Ritson**



Dr James Ritson is an architecturally-trained building conservator specialising in the sustainability of the historic built environment. He is currently a senior academic in sustainability at the University of the Built Environment. Previously a senior lecturer in the sustainability of the existing built environment at Kingston University, teaching on the Building Surveying, architecture and historic building conservation courses. James is the outgoing vice-president of ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Energy and Sustainability (ICOMOS ISCES). He is also on the ICOMOS UK National Scientific Committee on Digital Heritage and ICOMOS UN Sustainable Development Goals Working Group. James was made a fellow of the Royal Geographical Society in 2010 for work on the sustainability of the built environment. Published widely on sustainability, health, and conservation issues. James is also an expert reviewer for Routledge and the Journal of Architectural Conservation.

## **James Fisher**



James is Head of Strategic Partnerships, BRE Group. He is an experienced ESG and Real Estate Sector Professional with a strong background in built asset sustainability, certification, energy efficiency and consultancy. James possesses a balance of both technical and commercial skills ensuring that content-driven client relationships are at the heart of his work. Focus areas, in particular, are low carbon and net zero strategies for existing portfolios, benchmarking and performance KPIs for real assets. In parallel, James has a broad and deep understanding of the full range of ESG matters impacting on the value of real estate and the built environment.

## Lucinda Langton



Lucinda Langton is Head of Sustainability and Packaging at M&S Foods and has more than 20 years' experience in sustainability, corporate issues management, strategy development, implementation and communications. Lucinda leads the Foods 'Plan A' and Packaging teams, working to drive progress against the key areas of sustainability impact for the business; this includes meeting the business's net zero target, carbon measurement and reduction, sustainable agriculture, raw materials sustainability, human rights, plastic and packaging and food waste. She oversees the M&S 'Farming for the Future' programme and strategic partnerships with Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF), the Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP) and other NGO

partners such as WWF. Prior to joining M&S in 2021, she was Director of Sustainable Packaging at Coca-Cola Europacific Partners. She lives in Lincolnshire and is married to a farmer.

## Professor Tim Lang



Tim Lang is Professor Emeritus of Food Policy at City St George's, University of London. After hill farming in Lancashire in the 1970s, he has worked on food policy across health, environment, politics and culture. Since writing *Feeding Britain* (Pelican 2021), he's focussed on the state of civil food resilience, producing the *Just in Case* report for the UK National Preparedness Commission, urging more attention to public preparedness for food shocks.

## Schools

We are grateful to the staff and students of the following schools who have worked on displays and engaged with the topics of the Conference Agenda:

**Bancroft's School, City of London School, La Retraite Roman Catholic Girls' School, Rokeby School and Winton Primary School.**

## With many thanks to our sponsors

The City of London Corporation, the Drapers' Livery, the Merchant Taylors' Livery, the University of the Built Environment.



## Exhibitors

We are pleased to host two supporting organisations with stands:

**Pollinating London Together and The Worshipful Company of Insurers.**

## Livery Climate Action Group

We have a dedicated team of LCAG Executives who have been planning, preparing and managing this conference, including those chairing and helping on the day. Special thanks to Dr Anne Punter the Conference Director and to Stuart Mitchell who oversees the logistics and especially all the IT.

## Important information

Please feel free to comment and post on social media

Please tag us on LinkedIn @LiveryClimateActionGroup

#LCAGConference2026 #AreWePrepared?

Thank you for attending and if you want to know more, please see our website:  
<https://liverycag.org.uk/> or email [info@liverycag.org.uk](mailto:info@liverycag.org.uk)

## **Disclaimers**

Please note that the opinions expressed in these oral and visual presentations and panel discussions are solely those of the presenter and not necessarily those of LCAG.

LCAG does not guarantee the accuracy or reliability of the information provided.

Attendees and presenters should note that all sessions are being wholly or partly recorded and may be published in various media, including print, audio and video formats without further notice, but with attribution to the presenter.

Photographs are being taken by Marcus Jamieson-Pond and will be available after the Conference.

## **Event feedback survey**

We need your input to help shape our future events and ensure we're addressing the issues that matter most to you, so please spend a few minutes to complete our survey.

To fill out the survey scan this QR code below after the conference:

