



Worshipful Company of Builders Merchants

Climate Action Plan

August 2023

CLIMATE ACTION PLAN - WORSHIPFUL COMPANY OF BUILDERS MERCHANTS

Introduction

In 2021, all Livery Companies were invited to play their part in responding to the growing challenges of global climate change, which will impact all of our business, families and communities.


The Livery Climate Action Group was formed to support and enable individual Livery companies to form their own action plans and in doing so support the Lord Mayor and the City of London in responding to the challenges we face.

Our Climate Action Plan (CAP) which is detailed below has been developed by an internal working party reporting to our Court.

Approval for the plan was given on 7th July 2023 and the formation of a ESG Committee will also approved to continue to oversee our implementation, work plan and measurable aims, as part of our ESG policy.

I fully support the plan and will encourage the incoming Master to drive for improvements through our committee structure.

Richard Hill



Master

Worshipful Company of Builders Merchants

Date 14 September 2023.....

Our Climate Action Plan

The Builders Merchants Company are supportive of the goals and objectives of the Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG) to achieve a reduction in carbon emissions and reduced impact on our environment. Sustainability and environmental responsibility will form part of all of our decision making.

We are committed to our plan and will measure against this to ensure we reduce our overall impact on the environment and positively influence others to do the same.

What will we do?

1. Act now - As a company without a Livery building or owned transport, our carbon emissions and impact on the environment are not easy to benchmark, but we can take steps to measure what we are doing that is making positive impacts and carbon saving.
 - a. Introduce some form of measurement and recording systems to collect data which can be reviewed.
 - b. Instruct our Court, Employees, Members and Suppliers to commence looking at all operations to understand and then work towards reducing our impacts. Areas for focus are detailed in points 2 and 3.
 - c. Actively support City initiatives including the LCAG and Pollinating London Together (PLT) by encouraging members to volunteer and giving financial support where appropriate.
2. Focus areas – we have identified areas of our operations and activities which can be targeted for environmental impact improvement, some of which have already been improved over recent years.
 - a. Our procurement of goods and services
 - b. Use of paper
 - c. Travel and events
 - d. Investment strategies and investment partners
 - e. Education and communication
 - f. Influence within the construction industry
3. Focus areas in detail
 - a. Procurement – All future procurement will include a dynamic environmental impact assessment as part of the decision-making process, ensuring we are working with suppliers who are themselves meeting high standards in employment welfare and where possible have in place environmental and sustainability policies. Additionally, we will ask for policy copies or links from our suppliers to demonstrate what actions they are taking to reduce their carbon impact
 - b. Use of paper – we have already moved away from printed media for our newsletters and ticket allocations. That impact can and will be calculated. Our challenge for our Administration staff is to look for and take all possible opportunities to use electronic media rather than paper.
 - c. Travel and events – We learnt during the Covid pandemic that there is a personal impact of not meeting face to face, mental health issues caused by isolation being the greatest threat. We are an organisation built on personal relationships, and will continue to have meetings and events in person. That said we can utilise video

calling for a large number of business meetings. Our challenge is to be an effective personal organisation, and make measurable difference to our carbon use by planning video meetings within our schedule. We will monitor and record our mix of face to face and video meetings and encourage all committees to take a responsible approach.

- d. Investments – Our investment portfolio is spread over a large number of companies and institutions. As part of our regular reviews, we will work with our brokers to ensure our investments where possible will take into account carbon usage and other environmental factors, including employee welfare and ethical business practice.
 - e. Education and communication – We are engaged with schools, youth organisations, colleges and trade organisations with apprentice schemes. We will take every opportunity in our engagements to communicate positive goals for environmental impact. We have seen high levels of interest from younger generations who are very mindful of the impact humans have on their environment and their future. Through the work of our Education and Training Committee we will grow our network and support initiatives which have a positive impact.
 - f. Influence – Through our working members and our links to trade organisations, the Worshipful Company of Builders Merchants have a unique opportunity to influence the construction industry.
 - i. We can learn from our members and create positive messages about environmental success across our business sector. Our Marketing Committee will drive this action.
 - ii. At our annual City and Awards Lunch, we will continue to promote carbon reduction and sustainability through our annual caring for the environment awards
 - iii. Through our extensive PR messaging, social media activity and internal communications, managed by our Marketing committee we will take the opportunity to spread all that we learn throughout our contacts and networks.
 - iv. Influence is not easy to measure, but member surveys may be used to check on our perceived environmental position within our membership and other contacts. This information will be part of our annual review process for our Climate Action plan.
4. Review – It is recommended that a regular review as a minimum twice yearly take place to review actions and progress with a report going back to court. This will be via a newly formed ESG Committee so that essential focus is given.