



# The Worshipful Company of Engineers

(Incorporated by Royal Charter 2004)

## Climate-Action Strategy

(Approved by Finance & General Purposes Committee on 13 September 2023;

endorsed by Court on 10 October 2023)

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

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

In 2021, City of London Livery Companies came together to prepare a combined response to this challenge, and to support the City of London Climate Action Strategy. Following an initial seminar in January 2021, the Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG) was formed with Alderman (and Sheriff 2021-22) Alison Gowman as Chair. The Masters in 2020-21 (Gordon Masterton), 2021-22 (Peter Blair-Fish) and 2022-23 (Audrey Canning) are all involved. Working groups were set up by LCAG and produced a series of Guidance Notes, including “Building a Livery Climate-Action Plan” on which this proposal is based.

An inaugural annual conference was held in July 2022 with 43 Livery Companies represented. Membership of LCAG had reached 91 Companies and Guilds by September 2023 (and 94 by October 2023).

The first two Livery Companies to share their Climate-Action Plans (in effect, Statements of Intent) were the Water Conservators in September 2021 and the Constructors in October 2022. This document is a Strategy to prepare a detailed Climate-Action Plan for the Worshipful Company of Engineers.

## 2.0 CLIMATE-ACTION COMMITMENT AND STRATEGY

**We, the Worshipful Company of Engineers, support the Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG) in its aims of reducing our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and our wider impact on the environment, and fostering a more responsible and sustainable approach to the use of the planet's scarce resources, in line with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. Accordingly, we commit to preparing a Climate-Action Plan to work towards reducing our impact on the environment, and to encourage our stakeholders and associated networks to do the same.**

We will reduce or manage our impact by:

- Reducing our direct and indirect GHG emissions by establishing baseline data, then setting out a road map and milestones for reductions, regularly measuring, and sharing progress and learnings with others in LCAG.
- Adopting proactive and continuous improvement in our procurement choices for items such as stationery, food (and its supply chain) for events, and food waste management.
- Reviewing our office-based waste policies and practices in consultation with our landlord so as to increase re-use and recycling with the aim of achieving zero waste to landfill.
- Reducing our per capita water consumption and wastewater discharges.
- Reviewing the travel needs and modes of our employees, members, guests and visitors, and identifying more sustainable transport options.
- Reviewing our investment portfolio(s) considering Environmental, Social and Governance good practice and alignment with the Paris Agreement on climate change.

We will make a positive impact by:

- Increasing our engagement with the City of London, the Livery Climate Action Group, schools, colleges, universities, Professional Engineering Institutions, the Royal Academy of Engineering and other stakeholders to promote knowledge and research about sustainability, climate change, adaptation and resilience.
- Drawing on the expertise of our members to make publicly available learning and best practice on standards, tools, platforms and expertise that would facilitate a sustainable future.
- Encouraging and inspiring our members and networks to follow our lead within their own organisations and activities.
- Aiming to influence national and local government and their advisors to make optimal decisions on climate-action and sustainability strategies and plans by sharing and advocating evidence-based system-wide approaches as they evolve.

The Worshipful Company of Engineers climate-response volunteer working group will supplement this Strategy with a Climate-Action Plan with targets, and report progress annually to Court.