



## Climate Action Plan (CAP)

### Draft Version 2.1

#### Promoting a Sustainable Company Through Best Business Practice and a Scientific or 'Green Health' Approach

#### Introduction

The Company of Nurses joined the Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG) in 2022/2023 pledging to commit to supporting the Lord Mayor and the City of London Corporation's ambition to reduce greenhouse gases emissions by increasing its members' understanding of climate action to adapt our practise and advocate as health and care professionals.

The Royal College of Nursing defines 'sustainability' as a way of capturing social, economic and environmental activities that are needed in society and communities to ensure a safe, equitable and prosperous world for all (<https://www.rcn.org.uk/About-us/Sustainability-in-health-and-care>). This supports the relatively new discipline of 'Planetary Health' championed by the Lancet and Kings College London and 'Green Health' (<https://www.wma.net/what-we-do/public-health/green-health/>) as described by the World Medical Association (WMA).

The UN WHO Alma Ata (1979) universal health for all and the Ottawa (1986) healthy public policy declarations were the first universal guidance to be issued that advocated sustainable development across health and care. These were followed by a consortium of ICPP, WHO and UNEP who have expanded these precepts following the UNDRR Yokohama (1994), Hyogo (Millennium Development Goals) (2005) and latterly Sendai agreements (Sustainable Development Goals) (2015) recognising and contributing to the evolution of a holistic approach to Disaster Risk Reduction, Sustainable Development and Climate Action with the aim of improving global/bio/human security in the round. Health and care organisations, including the 'Health Livery Companies', as well as the executive (eg the wider Livery, local government, businesses and services) all have a major stake in this.

WCoN is embracing these challenges. As a Company without a Livery Hall or transport assets it has been challenging to establish a baseline to formulate a focused strategy and plans to reduce our carbon footprint and greenhouse gases as based on our consumption. It is appreciated that Livery activities are expensive in time and wealth requiring considerable human endeavour by definition but this may be balanced with our understanding of the science and being advocates as well as responsible consumers of energy. Hence, we present a healthy corporate policy approach to this CAP involving our internal and external stakeholders including: the Company Clerk, the Court and members, the WCIT whose Hall we reside in, along



with our business associates whom are essential to us achieving our Livery aim and objects.

The Sustainable Healthcare Coalition (<https://shcoalition.org/contact/>) provides valuable information about prioritising health alongside environmental stewardship bridging the relationships between the public and private sectors. It recognises that health metrics are not yet well defined but this is no reason for being timid about adopting a scientific approach which we will shape as part of our strategic growth as a Livery. We do have a strong understanding of the connection between our business plan and strategy and potential adverse impacts as strong evidence is emerging demonstrating the link between greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and their impact on individual, community and planetary health:

‘Think Globally, Act Locally’

### **The Context: Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions Regulations and Their Significance to The Company**

Three Scopes have been defined by the World Resources Institute (<https://www.wri.org/>) and have been universally accepted as standards for reporting on carbon emissions including by the City of London Corporation and LCAG. These are in illustrated in Enclosure 1:

Scope 1: Emissions directly caused by our own Company activity which is limited to the Clerk, Assistant Clerk and Pro Bono Workers. We have control over these activities and so this is where most of our effort will be placed. This is where our baseline Carbon Footprint was calculated and recorded in March 2025. We have established a Data Manager to collect details of pro bono work activities including travel and subsistence which will be added to the Company’s annual carbon footprint calculation in March 2026. This will generate an initial increase but this will be compensated and reduced as the results of savings measures are realised.

Scope 2: Emissions caused by organisations from which we purchase goods or services, for example events we hold at WCIT Hall or other establishments. We are able to influence these activities but cannot control them.

Scope 3: Emissions caused by the activities of organisations in the supply chains of those that we deal with eg WCIT Hall and other establishments. We have less influence here but should have an interest which might guide our decision making.



## Strategy

This CAP shall be included in the WCoN Strategy 2024-27 which recognises the natural and necessary requirement for us to increase our Company activities and recruitment. The owner will therefore be the Strategy Team led by the Upper Warden reporting any changes and developments to the Court. The Company Single Point of Contact (SPOC) to the LCAG will coordinate and control activities providing direction and guidance as required.

The Company shall be committed to reduce Scope 1 emissions and be aware of the GHG commitments of our suppliers and other partners to facilitate this. Thus supporting the objectives of the LCAG as well as demonstrate our commitment to the Corporation of London's goal of 'net zero by 2040'

(<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/environmental-health/climate-action/climate-action-strategy>).

Our baseline Carbon Calculation for 2024 was Metric Tonnes 0.56 as at 25 Mar 25 which is about 80% accurate based on 1 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) employee shared between the Clerk and Assistant Clerk predominantly working from their own premises.

We are not required to monitor our members Court and social activities eg attendance at dinners, fellowship and education events but it is recommended that pro bono working is recorded and a member of the Education Committee is collecting these data which will be added to our Carbon capture calculation in subsequent years.

Our investments portfolio managed by our Company of Nurses Charitable Trust (CNCT) is already sustainable and ethical. It is important, however, that future investments are brokered through companies that have declared that they pursue products that are governed by sustainability and ethical policies that do not add materially to greenhouse gas emissions or promote risk to life or health.

We shall be cognisant of WCIT's CAP and both our LCAG Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) will liaise regularly and facilitate the sharing of decision making between our two Companies where appropriate.

## Science Based Approach

As nurses and health professionals we are learning the real dangers of unsustainable development and its contribution to adverse climatic conditions on the health of our populations and communities. Our Company is not responsible for a large portfolio of assets, but we will continue to promote our understanding and ensure that health is at the centre of our policy development and decision making at all levels, being advocates for healthy business practice and taking a personal moral



responsibility for our own actions at home and at work. This is where we can collectively make most impact.

Our members may volunteer to support City of London initiatives such as Pollinating London Together or local schemes that promote healthier environments (<https://www.pollinatinglondontogther.com/>).

Other opportunities such as the Company or individuals subscribing to the NHS Forest or other woodland development trusts would also contribute to shaping the environment to support healthier living whilst helping to offset our consumption of carbon and other greenhouse gases.

The strategy will develop and become strengthened as monitoring, evaluation and learning improves through global research.

## **Areas for Consideration**

In addition to the strategic objectives the following areas are also worth considering following good practices already adopted by other LCAG members. These may be developed as systems across the Livery become more mature but internal changes should be considered as part of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of our day-to-day business:

### **Administration:**

We shall aim to reduce the use of paper and postage for most Company communications while recognising that some of our formal invitations (Pour Memoires) and menus are valued and appreciated by many of our members and guests.

Court papers are already published electronically and Court members shall consider whether these need to be printed.

Paperwork shall be recycled where possible.

Our Clerk shall advise on other, greener forms of administration that can be adopted across the membership eg greater use of the website for booking events and reducing e-mail traffic which also incurs a carbon cost to transmit and store e-mails. The Carbon Literacy Project has estimations of Carbon emissions generated by e-mail management <https://carbonliteracy.com/the-carbon-cost-of-an-email/> again these are early data but as the level of understanding improves this may be a significant metric for us to monitor our development alongside the greener health data.

### **Catering and Hospitality:**

We shall provide clear guidelines for suppliers where practicable to encourage improvements in sustainability. Using local goods to reduce transportation, encouraging re-cycling and the use of bio-degradable containers and utilities shall be encouraged.

Menu choices shall be seasonal and locally sourced where possible.



Where our dinners and other events are held in the Livery Halls of other LCAG members or the Guildhall, we shall ensure that both parties Climate Action Plans are understood and respected. This will become much easier as more CAP's are published on the LCAG website as there will be many areas held in common. Our Assistant Clerk shall advise on other, greener ways of managing catering and hospitality as they become available.

#### **Travel:**

All Company events should be held where those attending can travel by public transport. We should encourage the use of cycling and walking where possible and for members to aspire to green travel in their own working and social lives. We should encourage walking to events in central London from commuter rail termini as much as is practical, both to minimise the use of taxis and to gain obvious health benefits.

#### **Outreach and Education:**

The Company is becoming more actively engaged in numerous programmes with a range of schools providing mentoring and coaching activities. Where possible, these will emphasise the need for sustainability and respect for the environment. Most educational establishments are actively pursuing their own policies to reduce carbon emissions, and as far as possible these shall be supported by our Company.

Likewise, we should be cognisant of our requests for speakers at our own educational and professional development events and ensure that we are presenting ourselves as being responsible recipients of their services (this is mainly travel and subsistence) and help to manage their visits responsibly. We already offer online and hybrid events.

#### **Military Affiliations:**

Our connection with the Army is likely to expand to other single Services, Joint Units and Cadets in the near future. We should encourage the same attention to our drive to adopt greener measures to reduce GHG emissions and we should share our CAP with our affiliates and request sight of theirs as there will be quid pro quo visits to unit training and events.

#### **Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning**

The SPOC shall be responsible for maintaining the Company's annual carbon calculation and reporting this to the Court at the April meeting.

The Strategy Committee shall prioritise initiatives that demonstrably reduce our contribution to GHG emissions.

This CAP shall be submitted to the LCAG for sharing on the website (<https://liverycag.org.uk>) and reviewed annually by the WCoN Strategy Group.



The SPOC shall report significant actions, outcomes and impact to the LCAG to share good practise across the Livery and City of London.

The SPOC shall post significant information on the WCoN WebSite to maintain our members' situational awareness and provide a means for members to submit their ideas, recommendations and examples of good practise at home and at work.

## **Conclusion**

The Company's drive to reduce its GHG emissions to Zero by 2040 is everyone's business not only the Strategy Committee and the Clerks. This short strategy and plan provide everything that you need to know as a member to play your part in supporting the Mayor of City of London's aim alongside contributing to effecting major outcomes in health improvement as these measures and the measures of others gain traction. We thank you for your understanding and application.

## **Acknowledgements**

This Strategy and CAP has been developed from the WCoN SPOC's experience gained during the Heart of the City Small and Medium Enterprises Net Zero Course as well as CAPs produced by the Worshipful Company of Engineers and the Company of Entrepreneurs for which we are most grateful.

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Enclosures:

1. Scopes ppt