



Climate Action Strategy

Year Two of Climate
Action (2022-2023)





The City of London Corporation's Climate Action Strategy was adopted in October 2020 and launched in April 2021.

In the first year, we reduced our carbon emissions and gained a deeper understanding of how to be resilient to climate change. As we move into our second year, we are increasing the speed of reducing our emissions. And we are starting to tackle some of the big challenges to achieving net zero for the Square Mile.

You can read more about the impact we are making by [here](#).

Goals



Reduce carbon emissions



Increase climate resilience



Champion sustainable growth

Overview

We have committed to achieving net zero in our Scopes 1 and 2 emissions by 2027. This includes everything we own and operate as an organisation.



This year: We will deepen our understanding of energy use across our corporate, investment and residential buildings. Using this knowledge, we will be able to speed up our energy reduction measures to make the biggest impact on carbon emissions.

Most importantly, our new standards for the design of future capital projects, to increase energy efficiency and climate resilience, will be in place. This will ensure that we build and refurbish in a smart and energy-efficient way.

We will also continue to manage our Open Spaces in a way that promotes the sequestration of carbon.

We have committed to achieving climate resilience in our buildings, public spaces and infrastructure. This means preparing for the impacts of climate change and extreme weather.



This year: We will continue to build an understanding of climate risks and opportunities in our organisation and the Square Mile. We will do this by delivering climate resilience skill sessions for City Corporation officers and, implementing GIS mapping of the Square Mile's subsurface to identify resilience opportunities.

In our public realm work programme, we will also trial new measures such as urban greening and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) to improve resilience to climate change.

We will design a digital twin city of the Square Mile to run a climate change impact modelling exercise and identify priority risk sites.

We have committed to achieving net zero in the Square Mile by 2040. This includes activity within the City boundary and caused by the City but which occur outside, such as travel for business, commuting and leisure.



This year: We will produce an evidence-based local area energy plan for the Square Mile to identify priority interventions to increase renewable energy generation and decarbonisation opportunities.

We will publish a Supplementary Planning Document to ensure energy efficiency, carbon reduction and climate resilience for all major developments in the Square Mile.

We will also reduce vehicle mileage in the Square Mile by progressing locations for pedestrian priority. These schemes will increase safety and create more space for walking, cycling and greening.

We will run a Historic Retrofit Challenge to incentivise energy efficiency retrofit while providing valuable recognition for hard-to-treat historic buildings.

We will assess the feasibility of a Climate Action Fund through which investors can combine resources to help tackle hard-to-treat emissions.

Our grantee, the Heart of the City, will continue to deliver a free, tailored programme to support Square Mile SMEs to develop plans to reach net zero.

We have committed to achieving net zero in our value chain by 2040. This includes everything we buy and invest in.



This year: We will deepen the engagement with our fund managers and key suppliers on carbon emissions and net zero. We will work closely with them to challenge their thinking and encourage the transition to net zero across our value chain.

Spring (April-June)

Net zero question added for new tenders. "Does your organisation have a net zero carbon target?"



First stakeholder annual survey is launched to understand how people in the City and beyond understand climate and the City Corporation's Strategy. This will help improve our engagement strategy.



Climate for SMEs – 4 steps to action course provided by Heart of the City (HotC) is fully established and offers places to 70 SMEs to participate in the programme.



Pedestrian priority programme phase 1 is progressed on six locations.



Top 25 carbon most intensive suppliers identified to develop reduction action plans.



Temperature and humidity monitoring alongside soil moisture monitoring is progressed to inform the improvement of urban greening and shading in the City.

Full carbon footprint re-assessment is implemented to gather actual data on emissions.



Climate Action Dashboard is launched as a new form of interactively reporting our CAS stated goals, as transparent and consistently as possible.



Pond creation at Patmore's Field to increase carbon sequestration and biodiversity at this newly created wildflower meadow.

Climate Action is confirmed as the City Corporation's number one responsible procurement objective.



Climate Action Progress Report of the Climate Action Strategy is published.



Completion of energy surveys of the top 15 most energy-intensive commercial assets, to identify decarbonisation opportunities.



Public Realm Materials Assessment project implemented, aiming to review the environmental impact of the materials currently used and provide guidance on appropriate material usage.

Climate resilience policy for the City plan is drafted.

Summer (July-September)



65 energy surveys of communal housing production of feasibility reports are completed to identify interventions to reduce emissions.

Planning Advice Note on Whole Life Carbon is adopted.



Historic buildings retrofit challenge is launched.

Net zero technology standards are promoted across the City Corporation's properties as well as in planning permissions for the City.



150 asset energy surveys and cost profiles are completed to plan the achievement of an EPC rating B (or equivalent) by 2030.



Solar farm at Dorset is completed, making our Power Purchase Agreement through a new build of 95,000-solar panels effective.



Local Area Energy Plan is launched.

Net zero design standards are promoted across the City Corporation's properties as well as in planning permissions for the City.



Resilience measures are piloted across six sites in the City.



Winter (January-March)

Clean City Award Scheme is awarded.



New cohort of SMEs joins the HotC's module 3 and module 4 of their climate course.



Supplementary Planning Document on sustainability is adopted.



Engagement with fund managers

continues to ensure the City Corporations' financial investments are on the correct path to net zero.



Climate Action Fund scoping study takes place.



Pedestrian priority & street widening scheme commences survey work for preliminary design.



