



**THE
GLOBAL
CITY**

Climate Action Strategy

A Year of Climate Action (2021-2022)





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

April 2021 marks the beginning of the first year of action in support of the strategy.

By the end of the year, we will have further reduced our carbon emissions and gained a deeper understanding of how to be resilient to climate change.

You can read more about the impact we're making by clicking [here](#)

Goals



Reduce carbon emissions



Increase climate resilience



Champion sustainable growth

Overview

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



In the first year: We will focus on understanding energy use across our corporate, investment and residential buildings. Holding better data means that we can record improvements to energy performance and build on our approach.

We will also develop new standards for the design of future capital projects, to increase energy efficiency and climate resilience, and reduce carbon emissions.

We will develop areas of meadow and wood pasture within our Open Spaces in place of arable farmland to aid removal of carbon from the atmosphere. This will have the added benefit of increasing biodiversity and resilience to climate change.

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 occur outside, such as travel for business, commuting and leisure.



In the first year: We will produce a new 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 selecting locations for pedestrian priority. These schemes will increase safety create more space for walking, cycling and greening.

We will develop a new Climate Action Fund through which investors can combine resources to help tackle hard-to-treat emissions.

Our grantee, the Heart of the City, will 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.



In the first year: We will have fund and portfolio-level net zero targets for financial investments, and specific targets set in partnership with our suppliers for our purchased goods & services.

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.



In the first year: We will try out measures such as urban greening and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) in our public realm work programme.

We will also continue to build understanding of climate risks and opportunities into our decision-making as an organisation.

Spring (Apr-Jun)



Energy workshops held with residents to help understand energy use and the buildings through the eyes of those who live in them.



Pedestrian priority locations decided for improvements across the Square Mile to create more space for walking and cycling.

Energy Audits begin

Energy audits of corporate, investment and housing properties begin.

Summer (Jul-Sep)



Climate Action pilot programme launched by Heart of the City to support Square Mile SMEs.

Consultation

Circular economy strategy consultation published, outlining targets to transition the City Corporation to a truly circular organisation.



Biodiversity Action Plan published, highlighting the role of biodiverse green infrastructure in supporting the climate resilience of the Square Mile.

Autumn (Oct-Dec)



Creation of wood pasture and wildflower meadow on Epping Forest Buffer Land to capture carbon.



Sustainable Drainage Systems piloted at locations across the cross the Square Mile's public realm, highways and open spaces.



COP26 summit bringing parties together to accelerate action towards the goals of the Paris Agreement and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

Winter (Jan-Mar)

Climate Action full programme launched by Heart of the City to support Square Mile SMEs.



Planning documents

New Supplementary Planning Document produced to ensure energy efficiency, carbon reduction and climate resilience in developments.



Pedestrian improvements delivered across the Square Mile.



London
Climate Action
Week looking ahead



London Climate Action Week bringing together climate professionals and communities across London and beyond to find practical solutions to climate change.



Green Horizon Perspectives digital magazine shows focusing on the issues that matter to accelerating the mobilisation of climate and nature positive finance.



Air Quality data measured at over 100 locations across the Square Mile to help minimise exposure to harmful levels of pollution.

Dashboard goes live

Climate Action Strategy dashboard made publicly available to show data and progress against the targets of the strategy.

Climate Action community event celebrating climate action by a wide range of residential and business champions.



Key date Engagement event

Climate action fund

Climate Action Fund defined in order to address hard to treat emissions in the Square Mile.

Climate Action citizens engagement event encouraging informed participation on climate action.



Review of year one published, showing progress towards climate action strategy goals.



Clean City Awards announced, with new pledge to reduce excess lighting and demonstrating business excellence in sustainability.



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