



ENGLEFIELD ESTATE

The Englefield Estate is a family-owned land and property businesses committed to its purpose of delivering long-term economic, social and environmental benefits across more than 8,500 hectares of rural and urban interests and the communities within which we operate. Our vision is to operate viable, nature positive estates which are on a path to net zero.

Our operations are located in the South of England, London and the Highlands and include in-hand and let farms, forestry, residential and commercial property and events amongst others. We care for a wide range of important habitats, landscapes and heritage properties.

The Estate employs many sustainable methods of working, including agri-environment schemes, Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certification, recycling processes, organic, peat-free gardening, peatland restoration, providing land for renewable energy generation and using renewable energy for our operational electricity supply. In 2022 we undertook our first greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions audit, calculating Scope 1 and 2 emissions across the entire business. With a profile of the GHG emissions within our operational control, we are keen to introduce further emission reduction policy and practice. We also wish to inspire and encourage our tenants and neighbours as we all work towards the national target of becoming Net Zero by 2050. Participating in the Carbon Literacy Project was an ideal way to ensure our staff have a common level of understanding of the climate crisis, GHGs and how emissions can be tackled – and are directly involved in designing working methods to reduce emissions.



We took part in a hybrid programme of face-to-face and online training, delivered by David Cope, 600 Strategy, briefing our entire workforce during two sessions on 18th and 24th January 2023. Heads of departments and key staff built on their knowledge with further training tailored to their areas of work. Those involved with land management, and who interact with our farm tenants, examined our agricultural and land-based emissions, including an on-farm workshop discussing ways in which these can be reduced. Our events, property and administrative teams explored the emissions from both land and the built environment of the Estate and visited the Estate Yard, active residential and commercial building refurbishments and Englefield House, discussing how to minimise both embodied carbon and operational emissions. The team in London focussed on the office, urban and built environment, including building renovations, opportunities for renewable energy generation and tenant relations.



The training was a fantastic opportunity to openly and honestly discuss our concerns about the climate crisis and develop our personal and group actions. The levels of knowledge and passion were great to see. Staff were very happy to take part and are eager to take action.

24 members of staff are now certified Carbon Literate. GHGs are at the heart of discussions in every department. From accounts and administration, to crop management, to forestry planning, the effect of our working practices on emissions and carbon sequestration are considered on a daily basis.

Farming is a major source of our GHG emissions, so our farm is taking part in a Farm Carbon Toolkit project working with the Lower Pang and Kennet Farm Cluster. This includes discussion with neighbouring farmers, measuring soil carbon levels on the farm, a full carbon footprint exercise and modelling changes in farm management to identify the best ways to reduce our agricultural emissions.



We have introduced a no idling policy for Estate vehicles, to reduce our fuel use and carbon dioxide emissions and encourage contractors to do the same. We are also working with suppliers to maximise electronic invoicing and minimise printing and postage. To ensure continued engagement with the Carbon Literacy Project, new staff are given a Carbon Literacy (CL) briefing as part of their induction process and this summer a member of staff is taking part in the Delivering Successful CL Workshop, provided by the Carbon Literacy Project.

Edward Crookes, Estates Director said,

“The Carbon Literacy Project has increased our teams’ knowledge about climate change and climate action. We have already seen that training can encourage more climate-conscious behaviour both in the workplace and at home.

We are committed to embedding climate change into our decision-making processes at all levels and developing our plans to help reach net zero, working both within our organisation and by knowledge sharing with others.”