



The Englefield Estate is a family-owned land and property businesses whose purpose is the delivery of long-term economic, social and environmental benefit across more than 8,500 hectares of rural and urban interests and the communities within which it operates.

Our operations are located in the South of England, London and the Highlands, including in-hand and let farms, forestry, residential and commercial property, filming locations and events. We care for a wide range of important habitats, landscapes and heritage buildings. The Estate employs many sustainable methods of working, including agri-environment schemes, Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) certification, recycling processes, 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 and in 2023 we achieved Silver Carbon Literate Organisation status. 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.

In 2026 we aim to renew our Silver status and are repeating our GHG emissions calculations. Understanding the GHG emission reductions achieved over the past 3 years and renewing our commitment to Carbon Literacy will help the Estate to expand and refine our emission reduction policies and practices. We also aim to inspire and encourage our tenants and neighbours as we all work towards the national target of becoming Net Zero by 2050.

20 current staff were certified Carbon Literate in 2023 and in 2026 a further 9 staff took part in a hybrid programme of face-to-face and online training, delivered by David Cope, 600 Strategy, and our own Education & Environment Officer, Liz Mattison. Our Building Manager also repeated his Carbon Literacy training with Historic England – to facilitate research and discussion of the most up to date approaches to reduce embedded and operational buildings emissions, particularly when considering heritage properties.

We have taken the renewal process as an opportunity to provide all our staff with an update on the latest climate news, the reductions in GHG emissions we have achieved between 2022 and 2026 and take part in discussions of what more can be done.



48% of our staff are now certified Carbon Literate and GHGs are at the heart of discussions in every department. From administration, to crop management, to forestry planning, to building refurbishment and maintenance, the effect of our working practices on emissions and carbon sequestration are considered daily.



Farming is a major source of our GHG emissions, and we have made significant changes since 2023, reducing cattle numbers and nitrogen fertiliser use and introducing regenerative farming practices such as soil-improving cover crops and legume leys. Since 2022 the GHG emissions estimate for the home farm has reduced by 31% and the carbon sequestration estimate has increased by 147%.



Two end-of-life maintenance vans have been replaced with EV models, and an EV pool car introduced. In their first year of deployment, they have covered over 16,000 miles that would otherwise have used petrol or diesel.

We have also sympathetically converted an underused building to our new Estate Office, maximising sustainable insulation, heating and lighting and installing a new solar array. The result is an office powered entirely by renewable electricity and the work achieved a national award in 2025.



Looking ahead, our Buildings Maintenance Team aims to improve the energy performance of properties on the Estate. Having achieved the Estate's first A-rated EPC on a residential property, they are now researching the financially optimal route to the most energy savings and developing a consistent approach for assessing and implementing energy saving measures.

Edward Crookes, Chief Executive said,

“The Carbon Literacy Project has increased our teams’ knowledge about climate change and climate action. Training has driven measurable change in policy, procurement and working practices.”