



cornerstone barristers

## Cornerstone Barristers: Green Strategy

### 1. Introduction

Cornerstone is setting a 10-year vision to develop a '**Green Agenda**' to rise to the challenge of the climate and biodiversity crises and the serious threat caused by climate change. Cornerstone has been a member of the Bar Sustainability Network since its inception. We have used the carbon calculator to calculate our baseline emissions and will focus on ambitious reduction of our carbon footprint year on year. We will also make decisions that are beneficial for biodiversity.

Below is Cornerstone's overarching strategy, with a commitment to minimise the environmental impact of the services that we provide both directly and indirectly. This is buttressed by a detailed set of action plans setting out the concrete steps that both staff and members are taking to implement the strategy, including across the whole of Cornerstone's supply chain. This strategy and the action plans will be reviewed and updated annually.

This strategy does not profess an aim to achieve net zero carbon by a particular year. Cornerstone does not believe that such an aim would, at this stage, be credible. Rather, measurable and ambitious reduction of our carbon footprint, year on year, with specific targets for scope 1 and 2 emissions, is achievable. We intend that the work done in achieving this aim will lay the foundation for setting a credible net zero target in future.

### 2. Aims

- Ambitious reduction of our net carbon footprint year on year, from our baseline measured in 2020.
- Sustainability to form part of the overall culture of Cornerstone, which understands and values environmental resources.
- Engage with staff and stakeholders to ensure we fulfil our climate and biodiversity commitments.
- Report and monitor our key indicators at corporate level.

### 3. Vision and key objectives

- 3.1. Measure and reduce Cornerstone's carbon footprint.
- 3.2. Decrease our Scope 1 and 2 carbon emissions by 70% before the end of 2033 and reduce our Scope 3 emissions as far as reasonably possible by the end of 2033.
- 3.3. Take immediate steps to use energy from renewable sources and move to sustainable banking.
- 3.4. Identify reliable offsetting for our residual carbon emissions that cannot be avoided.

- 3.5 Develop action plans, with clear targets, which will be reviewed, approved and supported by the Board.
- 3.5 Devise a strategy to begin to record our lawyered emissions, with an ambition to reduce those emissions.

#### **4. Sustainability and Green Committee**

The monitoring and reporting of the aims and objectives identified in 2 and 3 above will be administered by the Sustainability and Green Committee. The overall aim is to ensure that the actions and targets are set with ambition; the requisite data is being recorded and the targets are being met. This strategy will be reviewed on an annual basis. Additionally, the members will act as '*Green Champions*' encouraging sustainable practices. The members should share ideas, implement action plans, communicate on progression and report on a quarterly basis.