



# UKGBC Plan FY2020-21

APRIL 2020

# Overview from our Chief Executive

This year's plan is being launched at a time of great concern for the physical health of individuals and economic wellbeing of organisations the world over. It is a challenging time to plan a week ahead, let alone a year. Above all else right now, UKGBC is resolute in supporting its team and you, our members, through the COVID-19 crisis to emerge from it as fit as possible to tackle the climate and biodiversity emergency head on.

With this in mind, we have refocused our 2020/21 Plan around a small number of immediately critical priorities:

- Ensuring that you continue to benefit from your membership of UKGBC, enabling you to actively engage in a wide range of collaborative activities
- Strengthening the knowledge-sharing, learning and development opportunities that come from being part of a community of like-minded organisations
- Redoubling our efforts to bring high quality content and experiences to you through a multitude of accessible, virtual formats and digital platforms

We fully recognise the huge challenges our industry is facing, and we are determined to support you during this period of change.

We also know that we cannot afford to lose momentum on tackling the climate crisis. Over the coming months, we will maximise our support for the industry in its vital transition to net zero carbon, and in its efforts to adapt to a rapidly changing climate. In this year of climate action, we will place even more emphasis on climate change mitigation and adaptation across all our key activities – while also continuing to drive progress around resource efficiency, nature & biodiversity, health & wellbeing, and social value.

Across the following pages you can discover key elements of our plan, arranged by UKGBC activities and key impact areas. This overview is by no means exhaustive and, as ever, UKGBC's plans will adapt throughout the year to ensure we capitalise on opportunities to deliver impact.

We are confident that, with your ongoing support and engagement, we will continue to make progress together for a better built environment.



**Julie Hirigoyen**  
Chief Executive, UKGBC



# Activities

## LEADERSHIP

**Aim:** To make sustainability central to leadership in our member organisations and to cultivate purpose-led leadership amongst both current and future leaders.

We will continue to focus on three levels:

- **Future Leaders:** our longest-running leadership programme designed for early-stage professionals will run its eighth cohort focusing on innovation and personal leadership. We will also strengthen and nurture its growing alumni network.
- **Change Accelerator:** a leadership programme for middle and senior managers will run its fourth cohort focusing on strategy and change management to accelerate action to more sustainable outcomes.
- **Leaders Network:** an exclusive network comprising over 140 CEOs and C-suite leaders whom we will convene regularly to share inspiration and insights for courageous decision-making. We will also deliver 'Recalibrate', our new executive sustainability leadership programme.

For more information, and to explore sponsorship opportunities, please contact: [leaders@ukgbc.org](mailto:leaders@ukgbc.org)

## LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

**Aim:** To harness our digital channels to further develop and leverage our diverse learning offerings to raise awareness amongst mainstream audiences and deepen sustainability skills, knowledge and know-how, as well as enhancing leadership and innovation mindsets.

A major focus for the coming year will be making all our learning offerings fully accessible virtually / digitally, including launching new programmes and resources. Look out for:

- **Virtual** learning opportunities: including course mails, webinars and masterclasses, as well as a brand new Global Green Building programme focused on cutting-edge international exemplars
- **Experiential** learning based on live projects, virtual learning tours and role-specific insights
- **Bespoke** learning packages for those organisations wishing to take a more customised approach to the sustainable skills transition.

For more information, please contact: [learning@ukgbc.org](mailto:learning@ukgbc.org)



## POLICY AND ADVOCACY

---

**Aim:** To build new, and nurture existing, political relationships to achieve maximum influence with Government and fully harness opportunities ahead of COP26. We will also grow our advocacy with cities and strengthen our local networks.

Priorities include:

- Maintain and build national policy momentum across a range of key issues such as net zero carbon, energy efficiency, low carbon heat, COP26, the Environment Bill, biodiversity net gain, green infrastructure, climate resilience and social value.
- Promote and expand our efforts to help city regions and local authorities develop and deliver green ambitions through: our local authority Policy Playbook, the Accelerator Cities programme on home retrofit; our European retrofit policy collaboration (Build Upon 2); and our Foreground initiative.
- Continue to strengthen our local networks in Greater Manchester, West Midlands and the South West, and explore the potential for expanding the local network model into Scotland.

For more information, please contact [john.alker@ukgbc.org](mailto:john.alker@ukgbc.org)

## RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

---

**Aim:** To enable a culture of innovation within our members and assist innovative start-ups to scale.

We will focus on ways to:

- Create a new format to research and disseminate knowledge, insights, and solutions to members across UKGBC's key impact areas
- Create relationships with hubs, accelerators and incubators, and bring more start-ups into the membership
- Continue to convene member forums focussed on Tier-1 contracting, infrastructure, and university research, amongst others

For more information, please contact [alastair.mant@ukgbc.org](mailto:alastair.mant@ukgbc.org)



# Areas of impact

## CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION

Capitalising on momentum around our Advancing Net Zero programme, we will:

- Support members on their net zero carbon journey, driving uptake of the WorldGBC Net Zero Carbon Buildings Commitment and bringing signatories together through a dedicated forum
- Continue development of the Net Zero Carbon Framework, with guidance around: renewables, offsets, reporting and verification, costs and energy performance targets for the retail sector
- Continue national and local government advocacy, building on strong relationships in central government, city regions and local authorities. Play a prominent role, working in partnership to raise the profile of the built environment ahead of COP26.

## CLIMATE RESILIENCE AND EMBRACING NATURE

Building on the establishment of our sector ambition for climate resilience and nature, we will:

- Run a programme of activity to increase nature-based solutions in urban areas for climate resilience and environmental net gains
- Help create and communicate innovative financing mechanisms for nature-based solutions to deliver resilience, through year two of the Greater Manchester IGNITION project, a collaborative partnership of 12 organisations
- Deliver a range of learning activities to increase understanding and application of ways to ensure climate resilience and embrace nature.



## CIRCULAR ECONOMY

---

Further promoting circular principles and collaboration amongst members, we will:

- Draw together and share international best practice through year two of the CIRCulT programme, a collaborative project with four European cities to explore circular built assets at the city scale and the tools required by professionals
- Convene a forum of member organisations to explore the application of circular principles on live development projects.

## SOCIAL VALUE, INCLUDING HEALTH & WELLBEING

---

Responding to the huge interest in this topic, our Social Value programme enters its second year during which we plan to:

- Develop a 'framework definition' for social value in the built environment, alongside key industry partners, in order to encourage a shared approach and common language
- Continue to support members as they develop their social value strategies, including through a new Social Value coursemail
- Address the issue of climate justice and the 'just transition', asking how we maximise social value from the transition to net zero in the built environment
- Continue to link up with WorldGBC's Better Places for People campaign, utilising its resources and campaigns around topics such as air quality.





For more information on how to get involved with any of the activities listed in this plan, please email [info@ukgbc.org](mailto:info@ukgbc.org)