

Our commitment to a thriving environment and communities

We want to leave the natural environment in a better state than we inherited it. This means more than just reducing negative impacts and slowing down the rate of decline. It's about improving environmental quality everywhere and actively creating more and better areas for people and wildlife.

We need to understand the risks and opportunities we face, and the impact we have on the environment and communities through others, such as our suppliers and customers. We will put the environment and communities at the heart of our decision making.

We will achieve this by:

Responding to the climate emergency

- Treating the climate emergency **as an opportunity** to adapt and make a difference;
- **Becoming a net zero organisation by 2030**, taking as much carbon out of the atmosphere as we are putting into it, so that we are no longer contributing to climate change;
- **Ensuring our organisation remains resilient** by adapting our land and buildings to a changing climate.

Benefitting people and communities

- **Ensuring the people we employ and those in our supply chain** have good working conditions and are protected from modern slavery;
- **Understanding the full impact of our highest risk activities and services**, working with suppliers to be resilient and transparent in our purchasing while influencing others to improve their own performance.

Delivering environmental net gain

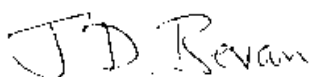
- **Improving the natural environment** through our operations and regulatory work, with priority given to nature based solutions and environmental net gain.

Optimising our use of resources

- **Reducing our consumption of resources** and only purchasing products and materials that are the most socially and environmentally responsible throughout their life cycle;
- **Working towards buying less, prioritising re-use and eliminating waste from products and materials** by working with partners to design it out.

We will do this by:

- **Growing our skills**, knowledge, capability and confidence in leadership, partnership, and technical topics including sustainability training for all staff and specifics on the climate emergency and environmental net gain;
- **Empowering people to take their own actions and try out innovative ideas** to make both big and small changes and challenge unsustainable decisions and action;
- **Continually improving** our sustainability performance and **ensuring compliance** with legislation, ISO14001 and others;
- **Monitoring, reviewing and learning**, measuring our efficiency to build on positive behaviour, prevent pollution and create a better place for people and wildlife.



James Bevan – Chief Executive



Emma Howard Boyd - Chair

