A year in review

ARAIVennoESG Initiatives 2021

2021 saw the firm undertake the following ESG related initiatives



January: We revised our existing **ESG policy** to include the firm's commitment to be carbon neutral, by seeking to both reduce and then offset the firm's direct carbon emissions, with retrospective effect from 2019.



February: Computers and hardware the firm had donated arrived in Nigeria for redistribution to local schools.



March: Employees participated in London Youth Rowing's "Race the Thames Challenge". Three teams of eight worked together to cover the equivalent of the distance from the source of the Thames to the estuary (346km in total or a minimum of 43km per person). £4,500 was raised and split between Thames 21 and London Youth Rowing.



May: ARA Venn, as a subsidiary of the ARA Group, became a signatory to the UNPRI.



June: Teaming up with Thames 21, 22 team members worked with grit and determination to pick up over two large containers full of rubbish, including hundreds of wet wipes, plastic items, clothing, shoes and debris from the banks of the **River Thames** by Battersea Bridge.



July: ARA Europe, through both ARA Venn and ARA Dunedin hosted its inaugural cycling event, the "**ARA Chiltern Classic**". Raising over £14,000, ARA and friends cycled some 160kms of inclines and escarpments around the Chilterns Massif to raise much needed funds for Coram, a specialist group of children's charities, committed to improving the lives of the UK's most vulnerable children and young people.



The ARA Group announced its **ESG Roadmap** for the next 5 years and beyond together with its commitment to create a carbon neutral build environment. We are looking forward to working together on implementing this plan.



The firm published its **Sustainability Report** for 2020, a copy of which is available on our website.



September: Mark Ebbinghaus (Chairman) and Roun Barry (CEO, ARA Dunedin), cycled from **Land's End to John O'Groats** (a distance of 1,615km over a 9 day period) on behalf of ARA Europe (representing ARA Venn and ARA Dunedin), raising over £15,000 for Coram.



November: 13 team members spend the day assisting Thames 21 with a project to improve the bankside next to the **River Brent** in Perivale Park. This was a physically demanding activity that involved 'scrub bashing', cutting back small trees, nettles and other plants in order to create a small path running alongside the river.



We announced the issue of our first GBP 350m bond under the new **Affordable Homes Guarantee Scheme**, which will support the delivery of over 1,600 new affordable homes in England.



December: Several employees spent the day volunteering at **City Harvest**, a charity that collects surplus food from all segments of the food industry and then redistributes it to those that need it the most.



Launch of **StrideUp**, ARA Venn's home loan platform which provides an alternative pathway to home ownership for first time buyers in the UK.



Charities we supported included







Signatory of: Principles for Responsible Investment



















