



# ESG INITIATIVES 2023

A year in review



Q1

## FEBRUARY



We were delighted to win “Most Innovative Finance Model” at the 2023 Housing Digital Innovation Awards for our work on the Affordable Homes Guarantee Scheme (AHGS), helping organisations secure much needed and subsidised funding for affordable housing during tough economic times.



Sixteen team members, in conjunction with Coram, participated in a garden clean-up project at the charity’s headquarters in Brunswick Square. Coram is a specialist group of children’s charities, committed to improving the lives of the UK’s most vulnerable children and young people.

## MARCH



Together with ARA Europe, we celebrated International Women’s Day (IWD) on 8th March. A breakfast was held for all members of the firm to attend to recognise and lend support to this important event. To coincide with IWD, both firms also organised a donation drive for women’s work wear, resulting in 3 large bags being donated to Smart Works, a charity focused on encouraging and supporting disadvantaged women seeking to return to work. Finally, raising £973 in additional funds for Smart Works, 6 employees collectively cycled 602.63 miles over the course of 7 days.



A team of 10 attended the annual Marie Curie Brain Quiz night; raising vital funds to support this charity, which helps families with end-of-life care and support.



We announced the funding of three new 30-year loans totalling £250 million under the £3billion AHGS, which we manage on behalf of the UK Government. The Scheme will support the delivery of over 1,600 new affordable homes in England.



## Q2 & Q3

### APRIL



Eight team members spent a 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.

### MAY



ESR unveiled its ESG 2030 Roadmap, Accelerating Positive Impact for a Sustainable Future, and published its ESG Report for 2022.

### JUNE



All employees participated in a series of interactive ED&I training sessions and workshops, run by Professor Andrew Marcinko from Durham University. We are keen to focus on the performance benefits of diversity, seeking to promote and value diverse opinions by fostering an environment that encourages and rewards team members for their contributions and ideas.

### SEPTEMBER



We were proud to become a member of the Academy of Real Assets, an organisation seeking to help young, socially diverse people interested in a career in real estate. Partnering with schools, youth organisations and philanthropic groups, the Academy delivers a programme of workshops, site visits and work experience opportunities for young people, aimed at increasing socioeconomic diversity in real estate and real assets. One of our employees is a member of the Academy's Youth Board. We are looking forward to working closely with the Academy over the next 12 months.



Team members braved the elements for this year's (wet and windy) Landaid 10k in Regent's Park, raising much needed funds for young people experiencing homelessness.





## Q4

### OCTOBER



On the 10th October, to mark World Mental Health Day, all employees were invited to attend a special keep fit session in Hyde Park to raise awareness of the importance of good mental health. A reminder that in order to look after your mental health, you need to take care of your body as well.



Six brave team members slept out on the streets for one night to raise awareness and money for the homelessness charity Streets of London. The team raised over £3,500, which will be used to support some of the most vulnerable people in our society.



Eight team members spent a day volunteering at Wearegrow agroecological farm and outdoor learning hub, at the Totteridge Academy in North London. Wearegrow works with schools and local communities delivering bespoke programmes in sustainable food growing and outdoor learning. Our enthusiastic team spent the day weeding and clearing, sorting and labelling produce.

### NOVEMBER



Two team members volunteered to speak about their careers and backgrounds at a Reaching Higher careers evening, organised through the Academy of Real Assets. Reaching Higher is a youth charity, seeking to teach young people the value of transferrable skills and offer practical careers advice.

### DECEMBER



We announced the funding of a further four new loans, totalling £256.5 million, pursuant to the Government's AHGS.



Employees volunteered at Coram's annual Christmas Concert, raising vital funds to support vulnerable children in the UK.



We have once again sent some of our old IT equipment to Nigeria. This time the equipment will be used for a project run by the KBS Academy to teach local women basic IT skills, which will hopefully lead to improved job opportunities.



The Chancellor's autumn statement announced the UK Government's intention to expand the scope of the lending programme for Affordable Housing (AHGS), which we manage, to increase the amount available under the scheme from £3bn to £6bn. The scheme's scope will also be broadened so that loans can facilitate critical investment in the energy efficiency and quality of existing homes, in addition to supporting the development of new homes.

## CHARITIES WE HAVE SUPPORTED INCLUDE



**LandAid**

**coram** | better chances  
for children  
since 1739

**STREETS OF  
LONDON**

**TACKLING HOMELESSNESS**



**SMART  
WORKS**

**GROW**