



**WEST
LONDON
BUSINESS**

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COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE) WITH THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT

Period covered by this Communication on Engagement

From: January 2021 To: December 2022

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that West London Business reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours.

We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Andrew Dakers
CEO, West London Business

LEADERSHIP FOR THE WORLD'S MOST CONNECTED PLACE

West London Business Ltd

Company limited by guarantee, registered in England number: 02934029

VAT registration number: 674069512

Part II. Description of Actions

WLB has taken the following actions in support of the Global Compact.

Led the development of a Beneficial Loans Toolkit for employers (Principles 1 and 6)

As employers grapple with how best to help staff in the midst of a cost of living crisis, West London Business released a Beneficial Loans Toolkit, giving employers much-needed practical guidance on how to issue small loans to employees as a manageable and safer alternative to high-interest payday lending.

Download from <https://westlondon.com/beneficial-loans-toolkit/>

Better Futures (Principle 9)

West London Business is a partner with Imperial College, Sustainable Ventures and City Hall in Better Futures through which we have supported an eco-system of 200+ Cleantech pioneers over the past six years.

Read more at <https://www.betterfutures.london/>

Better Futures+ (Principles 7, 8 and 9)

WLB is commissioned by the Mayor of London (under Green New Deal funding) to deliver a comprehensive business support programme to help SMEs across the capital plan their transition to net zero by 2030.

Outputs:

- 456 eligible companies have registered for Better Futures+ over the past 18 months (70% of target our target by end March 2023) ...290 of these companies particularly engaged ...and of these 125 have completed their carbon footprints on Climate Essentials
- 50 webinars and workshops
- 86,200 minutes of webinars viewed live or on demand through YouTube; the most watched webinar had 106 viewers
- 200 hours of bespoke 1:1 support with industry specialists
- Over 50 partner organisations engaged across the capital from local authorities to Business Improvement Districts

Read more at https://betterfutures.london/betterfutures_plus/

We are also providing thought leadership on Green Skills – see July 2020 short paper with a local member of parliament:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1K_nUM3IDJx53AlcJm9xZc2YgmPI8TUCv/view?usp=share_link

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Partnership working

In 2021 we were recognised as a UNFCCC observer organisation. This allowed us to coordinate a delegation of leaders to COP26 in Glasgow. This is something we intend to repeat in 2023.

In 2022 we partnered with Anthropy (<https://anthropy.uk/>) a new UK-focused “social Davos” that took place at the Eden Project Cornwall. We curated two panels and were delighted that Steve Kenzie (Executive Director, UN Global Compact UK) was able to participate in one of these.

WLB staff attend UN Global Compact UK webinars occasionally as a CPD activity.

Part III. Measurement of Outcomes

Cost of living crisis

We saw a creative response to the Beneficial Loans Toolkit from Corporate partners looking at a variety of ways to use the mechanism that we hadn’t previously considered – loans being used by staff to fund everything from training to solar panels.

We also introduced the loans mechanism as a benefit available to WLB staff.

Better Futures - Cleantech growth


Many Better Futures companies have progressed onto the Undaunted accelerator; WLB’s Chief Executive is a Member of its advisory board, making WLB one cog in the network that has delivered:

A decade of climate tech start-ups

Undaunted 
The Greenhouse

The Greenhouse Accelerator

- **71% raise investment**
- **Over \$1bn raised in 10 years**
- **Over 1,500 jobs created**
- **Born in London - working across the UK and the globe**



Better Futures+ reducing SME CO2 emissions in London

- Engaged businesses have committed to reduce 231 tonnes of CO2 using the reduction planner in Climate Essentials

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