

NEWSLETTER

SUMMER 2025

NEWS FROM LCAG

LCAG HOSTS FIRST AGM

On 24th June 2025, the Livery Climate Action Group (LCAG) held its first Annual General Meeting as an unincorporated association at the Urban Farmer Project on Shoe Lane. Alderman Alison Gowman was elected as Chair and gave a review of LCAG activities over the last year and its plans for the future, all aligned with the vision of working for a resilient and sustainable City of London.



The first Executive was elected: Heather Barrett-Mold; Anthony Bickmore; Rob Casey; David Chitty; Helen Dobson; Alison Gowman; Simon Gray; Averil Macdonald; Juna Margariti; Gordon Masterton; Stuart Mitchell and Anne Punter.

Alison concluded with a plea to member SPOCs (Single Points of Contact) to be the lifeblood, eyes and ears of LCAG by building networks; writing articles for blogs; presenting at an online seminar about what their livery is doing; contributing

to LCAG's annual review, showing how the Livery movement and its networks are making a meaningful impact towards a net zero sustainable and resilient City.



CONVENOR'S COLUMN

Alderman Alison Gowman

Welcome to Summer 2025. Already proving to be very hot and very dry. All issues that concern the City and Liveries alike.

For LCAG, Midsummer Day was the date of our first Annual General Meeting as an unincorporated association.

Having signed our Constitution on 1st May 2025, we needed to hold a more formal meeting to confirm our Executive and report on the past and future for the Group.

I was generously appointed as the Chair and do not take that role lightly. Our Constitution provides for term limits and so I will cede that role in due course.

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ENGAGEMENT: The latest engagement news

SPOC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS



REFURBISHMENT OF SKINNERS' HALL

ANDREW KENNETT
CLERK TO THE SKINNERS

Andrew Kennett described the recent refurbishment of Skinners' Hall, a Scheduled Monument of national importance. The original hall on the current site, built about 1295, was destroyed in the Great Fire of London and rebuilt in 1670. The interior of the Hall was remodelled in 1847. Restoration work was carried out following bomb damage during the Second World War. But it remains a fine example of a 17th century livery hall, which survives well.

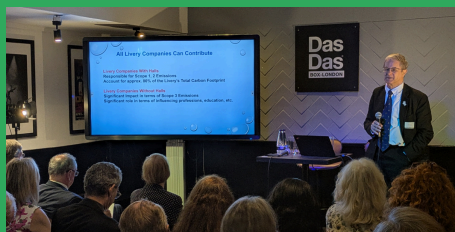
The recent extensive refurbishment significantly enhanced wall insulation, restored window shutters and installed roof air-source heat pumps on the roof so the hall is now 100% electrically powered, requiring the Skinners to finance an upgrade to the nearest substation. It is an excellent example of designing for sustainability, and Historic England has commended the team for ensuring everything significant was saved to retain the history of the Hall, whilst allowing it to develop, as it must, into a building fit for the 21st century.

Alison visited the site in 2023 and published [this blog](#) afterwards. The presentation concluded with [an excellent video illustrating the work done and its challenges](#). For further information, see the presentation [here](#).

MAKING THE LIVERY BETTER

ROB CASEY, WATER
CONSERVATORS SPOC

Rob Casey provided an update on lessons learned in carbon footprint calculations for selected Livery Companies and revealed some useful annual reductions from targeted interventions (eg Merchant Taylors from 431 tonnes in 2012 to 126 tonnes today). He encouraged the use of targets for all aspects of Climate Action Plans, including influencing and offsetting. See the presentation [here](#).



CONVENOR'S COLUMN CONT...

Our new Executive looks a bit like our old one but, again, I believe that others will now feel emboldened to put themselves forward for nomination next year.

Our AGM proved that meeting in person has a lot of benefits and there was a very positive and upbeat enthusiasm in the room. So please diarise the next open Conference on 26th January.

After the formal AGM, we held our first SPOC Conference on "Innovation for Resilience: Livery Company Collaboration", with fascinating presentations which showed the depth and breadth of knowledge of our SPOCs.

I am looking forward to more events where SPOCs lead the dialogue.

We have future dates in hand.

For a full overview of the AGM see this presentation [here](#).

SPOC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS



FURNITURE MAKERS' CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE REVIEW

JOANNA KNIGHT, CHAIRMAN OF THE FURNITURE MAKERS' CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

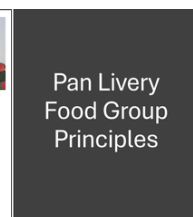
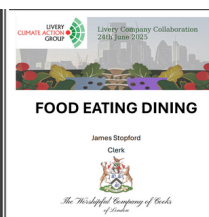
Joanna Knight provided an overview of the work of the committee and the milestones since its formation in 2022.

The committee is focused on knowledge sharing and championing 'best practice' within the furniture and furnishing sectors and has hosted four major events designed to support the journey to greater sustainability.

Joanna summarised the main benefits of these events as industry engagement, networking, visibility through press and social media coverage, and knowledge sharing. Find out more in the presentation [here](#).

FOOD, EATING AND DINING

*JAMES STOPFORD,
CLERK OF THE WORSHIPFUL
COMPANY OF COOKS*



James Stopford tackled the important topic of Food, Eating and Dining. He drew on guidance from the Fellowship of Clerks; the LCAG Guidance Note written by the Pan-Livery Food Group; ReLondon's mission to waste less and to reuse, repair, share and recycle more; City of London Corporation policies on the welfare of egg-laying hens, and its sustainable Fish Cities pledge; its Procurement Code, Fairtrade Resolution and Modern Slavery statement, all of which are relevant in our relationship with "stuff".

James made the convincing case that whilst these are all part of the regulatory landscape, the key driver for sustainable improvements is ultimately to sustain and enhance the reputation of the City and Livery for excellence, heritage, standards and quality. View the full presentation [here](#).

SPOCs then gathered in discussion groups to give feedback on potential guidelines for LCAG Guidance. *Gordon Masterton, Membership and Engagement*



FUTURE EVENTS

SPOC FORUM: DECARBONISING THE THAMES

Grace Rawnsley (Port of London Authority)
10 September 2025 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm (online)

The Port of London Authority have committed to a Net Zero Plan for the River Thames.
Join this SPOC only session to hear more and understand how we can help.

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/5adjhsa5>

CITY ENVIRONMENT DEBATE SUSTAINABLE UK CITIES: WHAT, HOW & WHEN?

Chaired by Cassie Sutherland of C40 Cities + 5 speakers
2 October 2025 4.30 pm – 7.30 pm (W1T 4BJ)

The Worshipful Company of Water Conservators is hosting the second City Environment Debate focussed on creating sustainable cities (UN SDG 11).

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/mpyyada8>

SPOC FORUM: BUILT WITH PEOPLE

Jonathan Louth
12 November 2025 5.00 pm – 6.00 pm (online)

This SPOC Forum, led by the Chartered Architects, will focus on an Architects' Company initiative "Built with People" that is in development with other maker and construction liveries: optimising sustainable work practices and achieving commensurate energy reductions through combining technological developments with human skills..

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/3x7u7zxw>

LCAG CONFERENCE JAN 2026

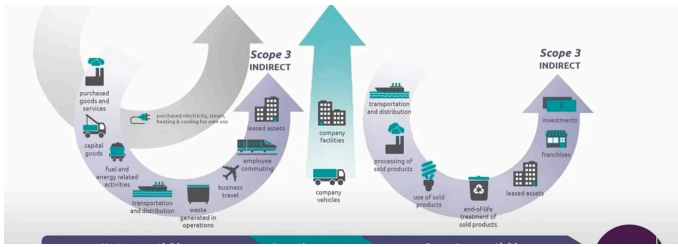
THEME: ARE YOU READY

Save the date
26 January 2026 11.30 am – 7 pm (EC2R 8JB)

Join us at the Merchant Taylors Hall for LCAG's fourth conference. Speakers and further information to follow.



NEWS FROM ELSEWHERE



CARBON CALCULATION AND MITIGATION

This SPOC Forum hosted by 'Heart of the City' focussed on the methodology behind counting carbon emissions for small organisations, the drawbacks and compromises needed, and the online calculators that give some reliable standard measurements.

Member companies spoke of their experiences measuring travel, transport and Livery dinners.

Read more [here](#).



CITY WATER DEBATE 2025

Britain's water sector is poised for a potential £104 billion investment over the next five years and the chance to renew and transform much of the country's water infrastructure. But the sector also needs a new approach from regulators and government, greater involvement from customers and communities and a genuine emphasis on sustainable use of water in the face of climate change.

Read more [here](#).

ENGAGEMENT

If you have a sustainability event that you would like to promote or some information that could benefit other Livery organisations we would like to hear from you. Please email us at info@liverycag.org.uk. If you need some inspiration on how to write up your story, see our blog-writing guidelines [here](#). Deadline for inclusion in the Autumn Newsletter is 17 October 2025.

Helen Dobson, Editor

ABOUT LCAG

The Livery Climate Action Group was formed in 2021 to assist City of London Livery Companies and Guilds to manage their impact on Climate Change and the environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions and making responsible use of resources. Contact info@liverycag.org.uk for details on how to join.

