

# ADEPT President's Awards 2025

Entry form

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**Award category** Delivering Sustainable Growth

**Project Title** The City of London's Integrated and holistic suite of Sustainability Policy Guidance

**Local authority entrant** City of London

## Headline summary (150 characters max.)

The City published a suite of ground-breaking Sustainability policy documents in the past year, providing a holistic, integrated policy direction

**Please note we need at least one supporting image per award submission. Upload your image/s below.**



## Delivering sustainable growth: How is this project delivering sustainable growth, not just now but into the future – demonstrating ambition and vision, anticipating future challenges and futureproofing growth including developing the workforce for the future? (150 words max)

The holistic suite of planning policy documents generated by the City's Sustainability team in the last 12 months are an integrated, disciplined response to a myriad of Sustainability challenges. The Carbon Options Guidance is the UK's first toolkit to assess Whole Life Carbon development options from retrofit to new build. The Heritage retrofit toolkit offers guidance on the sustainability performance of heritage buildings

The Planning for Sustainability Supplementary Planning Document is an innovative, holistic, comprehensive, practical and ambitious guide to all aspects of sustainable development. It sets out in clear steps the requirements for development at different stages, with inspirational case studies, detailed guidance and spatial analysis.

The Local Energy Plan is a strategic roadmap to a de-carbonised energy network integrated into infrastructure and development schemes. The globally ground-breaking Thermal Comfort modelling forecasts heat stress areas as a result of Global temperature increases enabling mitigation measures to be implemented now

**Delivering sustainable growth: How is this project working across boundaries and with different partners to achieve long lasting clean growth? (150 words max)**

The suite of policy documents were developed in a collaborative and solution focussed manner in partnership with leading Sustainability experts, developers, architects, infrastructural and energy providers, structural, microclimatic and M&E engineers and was the subject of comprehensive public consultation including local residents. This collaboration took the form of workshops, round tables, events and panels. This holistic and integrated approach and the consensus achieved is groundbreaking in the way it disciplined, what had become a polarised and adversarial debate, This discipline and rigour and the consensus achieved is considered to be an UK exemplar as a basis for sound and evidence based policies and planning decisions.

The globally ground-breaking and award-winning Thermal Comfort modelling was developed with the leading experts in Microclimate in a collaborative workshop context to establish a complex algorithm-based methodology and using climate forecasting tools to model future heat stress areas as a result of Climate change.

**Delivering sustainable growth: How is this project proactively engaging with business to tackle problems and find solutions, stimulating the clean growth sector at the same time? (150 words max.)**

All of the Sustainability policy documents were developed within workshops chaired by the City with all the UK's leading Sustainability experts alongside developers and was the subject of wide-ranging public consultation with events and workshops. The consensus achieved and solution focussed approach of participants was ground-breaking in a Sustainability sector with a reputation for diverse and competing views. The engagement of the City Property Association and their research paper on Retrofit was an important factor in understanding the practical implications and challenges as well as engagement with the City's Business Improvement Districts and City initiatives to enhance awareness and responses to Sustainability challenges amongst small City businesses

Thermal Comfort modelling maps future heat stress areas in the City as a result of global temperature increases to inform massing of new development, tree planting and landscaping and the Local Energy Plan was developed in close consultation with the infrastructure providers.

**Delivering sustainable growth: How is this project going beyond the 3-5 year budget cycle to prepare for future challenges including the use or consideration of innovative funding solutions? (150 words max.)**

The Carbon Options Guidelines was to avoid a short term, reactive approach to Whole Life Carbon and to factor in the 60-year carbon footprint through an assessment of operational carbon. The long-term Sustainability challenges need a long-term disciplined solution. The assessments demonstrate that while retrofit often has the lowest carbon footprint over a 10–20-year period, new build options in 60 years' time had a much lower carbon footprint after operational carbon was factored in. The Local Energy Plan provides a strategic roadmap for de-carbonised infrastructure.

The Thermal Comfort modelling identified areas of future Climate Change heat stress in the City resulting from global temperature increases which enables developments to be negotiated to deliver benign cooling wind patterns as well as tree planting and soft landscaping schemes to mitigate future changes. Measures to address heat stress are negotiated into development schemes and funded by these, not through the public purse

**All categories: please add anything else that supports your award entry**

The suite of Sustainability Policy guidance published by the City of London over the last year offer an integrated, holistic policy response to the myriad of Sustainability challenges. The Planning for Sustainability SPD delivers an overarching vision whilst the Carbon Options Guidance offers the UK's first

toolkit to assess options from retrofit to new build accounting for Whole Life Carbon.

The Heritage Retrofit toolkit offers clear guidance on retrofitting historic buildings whilst the Local Energy Plan offers a strategy and roadmap for the delivery a sustainable de-carbonised energy infrastructure for the Square Mile.

The City's internationally ground breaking and award winning Thermal Comfort modelling predicts heat stress areas across the City enabling mitigation measures to be introduced now in developments and public realm to address future challenges.

This integrated suite of Policy documents has rapidly resulted in a substantial increase in retrofit schemes in the City as well as radical and innovative solutions on circular economy, material passporting, recycling waster heat and microclimatic interventions. Practical Sustainability policies being delivered on the ground.