

**Greencoat Renewables PLC** ESG Report 2020

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Visit www.greencoat-renewables.com or call +44 (0)20 7832 9400 for more information. The Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) is the competent authority of Greencoat Capital LLP.



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### Foreword





Rónán Murphy Chairman

### To sustain the long term success of our business, Greencoat Renewables PLC understands and recognises the need to manage effectively environmental, social and governance (ESG) matters for all stakeholders.

Central to the Company's strategy is growing a successful business that supports the transition to a net-zero carbon economy, in a way that positively impacts the communities and local environment in which we operate.

Our dedication to sustainable investment practices means we can continue to invest in, and responsibly manage, renewable energy assets that create long term value for our shareholders. Having a robust ESG Policy enables us to identify, mitigate and manage ESG related risks and opportunities throughout the lifecycle of our renewable energy assets. Our commitment is further reinforced by the strong ESG track record of our Investment Manager, Greencoat Capital LLP (Greencoat Capital), who has been a signatory to the UN backed Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) since 2016.

Greencoat Renewables PLC is proud to have made significant progress in 2020, from expanding our generation capacity (including entering the French market) to the way we have responded to COVID-19 in keeping people safe. We have also continued to support local community projects and initiatives. Highlights include:

#### **Environmental:**

- Enhancing our support for the transition to a net-zero carbon economy. We have significantly increased our renewable energy generating capacity and now have 557MW of installed capacity across 21 wind farms. Our portfolio produced enough renewable energy to power 330,355 homes, saving 561,432 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>.
- Improving environmental standards for the whole wind sector. We are supporting a four year research project with Wind Energy Ireland led by Trinity College Dublin, to help maximise the positive impact of windfarms on biodiversity.

#### Social:

- Enhancing local communities. In 2020, we committed €801,000 to community funds across 114 projects and helped many community groups respond to and recover from COVID-19.
- Supporting workers through the pandemic. We have rapidly adapted to the increasing need for COVID-19 safety measures. All 21 of our wind farms have adopted Wind Energy Ireland guidelines, with enhanced hygiene and social distancing procedures in place. The Company has also been an active part of the Wind Energy Ireland COVID-19 taskforce.
- **Renewed focus on supporting societal causes.** We have sponsored the BT Young Scientist & Technology exhibition. In such a challenging year for schools and students, it was important to ensure that they had the opportunity to learn and develop their problem solving skills. We also began a three year sponsorship of the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre to support its national reach and adaptation to the digital environment.

#### Governance:

- Enhanced ESG oversight of service providers. We have engaged with all third party operating managers to ensure that they have policies to cover material ESG issues, from cyber security to bribery and modern slavery.
- Improving health and safety standards. Electrical safety was chosen as a key focus area for development in 2020. The results from the audits were shared with Wind Energy Ireland to the benefit of the whole industry.
- Greater data capture and disclosure. We set out to understand better the environmental impacts of our wind farms so that we can measure and manage them more effectively. We reported for the first time to CDP, an independent organisation running widely recognised global environmental disclosure standards. The Company also supports the recommendations of the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure (TCFD), which we use to address climate related risks and opportunities. This year we have enhanced our disclosure with this guidance.

Looking ahead to 2021 and beyond, we are excited to continue to contribute to the transition to a net-zero carbon economy, and by the opportunities this represents for our business. We aim to acquire new assets both in Ireland and targeted European countries to deliver long term value for our shareholders. As our business grows, continuing to support the people and places that make our wind farms a success remains a key priority.

### 2 2020 ESG Highlights

## 557<sub>MW</sub>

#### 2019: 462 мм

of installed capacity across 21 renewable energy assets at the end of 2020. pg. 3  $\rightarrow$ 

## 1,404 GWh

#### 2019: 1,154 GWh

of renewable energy generated in 2020, enough to power 330,355 homes and meet the electricity needs of 903,511 people for a year. pg. 7  $\rightarrow$ 

## 561,432 tonnes

2019: 461,600 tonnes

of CO2 savings. pg. 7 ->

## 12

#### 2019: 1

renewable energy assets received an independent Health and Safety audit in 2020. pg. 11  $\rightarrow$ 

## All 21

enewable energy assets have enhanced hygiene and social distancing procedures – in response to the threat of COVID-19. pg. 12

## €801,000 2019: €674,200

committed to community funds across 114 community projects in 2020. pg. 9  $\rightarrow$ 

All 8

#### 2019: all 7

renewable energy assets that require a habitat management plan have implemented one. pg. 8  $\rightarrow$ 

### SUSTAINABLE ENERGY AWARD SPONSOR

The Company sponsored the special award for Sustainable Energy at the 2020 BT Young Scientist and Technology exhibition.

pg. 10 ->







 Gréencoat Capital LLP, as investment manager to Greencoat Renewables PLC, is a signatory to the UN PRI

Greencoat Renewables PLC ESG Report 2020

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### **3 About Greencoat Renewables PLC**

# Greencoat Renewables PLC is an owner of renewable energy assets, with a market capitalisation of $\in$ 864 million and 557MW of installed capacity across 21 wind farms in the Republic of Ireland and France.<sup>1</sup>

We have been listed on the Growth Market of Euronext Dublin and the AIM market of the London Stock Exchange since 2017. We are classified as a Green Economy Issuer by the London Stock Exchange.



#### Ireland operating portfolio

- 1 An Cnoc
- 2 Ballybane
- 3 Beam Hill
- 4 Carrickallen
- 5 Cloosh Valley
- 6 Garranereagh
- 7 Glanaruddery
- 8 Gortahile
  - 9 Killala
- 10 Killhills
- 11 Knockacummer
- 12 Knocknalour
- 13 Letteragh
- 14 Lisdowney
- 15 Monaincha
- 16 Raheenleagh
- 17 Sliabh Bawn
- 18 Tullynamoyle II

France operating portfolio

- 19 Pasilly
- 20 Sommette
- 21 Saint Martin

Committed investments<sup>2</sup>

- 22 Cloghan
- 23 Taghart

Existing renewable energy assets

2020 new renewable energy assets

Committed investments

1 As of 31st December 2020

2 Includes the commitment to acquire Cloghan and Taghart windfarms once operational which is expected in H2 2022

### Our investment philosophy

The Company's aim is to provide investors with an annual dividend that increases progressively while growing the capital value of its investment portfolio in the long term. We do this through the reinvestment of excess cash flow and the prudent use of portfolio leverage.

We provide investors with the opportunity to invest in the European wind energy sector. In 2020 we acquired our first French wind farms as part of our strategy to expand into other targeted European countries that have stable and strong renewable energy frameworks. We have delivered on this promise, and as a result, we continue to help to accelerate the transition to a net-zero carbon economy.

### Our governance and structure

Our approach to governance is to manage risk through robust processes and controls, and to ensure best practices are in place to support our growing business. The Board of Directors oversees the management of the Company and its investments and comprises independent non-executive directors. All of them bring significant and complementary experience working in the renewable energy sector and a wide range of skills and expertise.

Greencoat Renewables PLC is a member of the UK Association of Investment Companies and applies its Code of Corporate Governance to ensure best practice. The Board is the main governance body and meets on scheduled monthly calls, and at quarterly and ad hoc meetings, as necessary. The Board delegates day-to-day management of the business, including management of ESG matters, to the appointed Investment Manager, Greencoat Capital. Greencoat Capital is a specialist in renewable energy investments and has over £6 billion of funds under management. The Greencoat Renewables PLC investment team at Greencoat Capital considers how ESG issues should be managed and integrated and reports to the Board on a regular basis. Greencoat Capital has been a signatory to PRI since 2016. In the 2020 PRI assessment, Greencoat Capital maintained its A score in the Strategy and Governance reporting module and achieved A+ score in the Infrastructure module.

### **Our Board of Directors**



Rónán Murphy Director and Chairman



**Kevin McNamara** Director and Chairman of the Audit Committee



**Emer Gilvarry** Senior Independent Director and Chairman of the Remuneration Committee

Appointed in 2020



Marco Graziano Director and Chairman of the Nomination Committee

### **4** Our approach to responsible investment

### Delivering long term value for our shareholders and wider stakeholders

Our renewable energy assets generate clean energy to support a more sustainable future, and responsible investment is central to our purpose as a company.

We believe that effective management of ESG issues produces the best results for our shareholders and other stakeholders across society, by offering opportunities to create value and actively managing risks to the business.

Our commitment to responsible investment goes beyond our contribution to help mitigate climate change. We also work to engage with and manage the needs of all key stakeholders. We manage the environment around our renewable energy assets, seek to ensure the safety of those who work on them and support local communities. As the second largest owner of wind farms in the Republic of Ireland, and having entered the French market, we seek to play an active role in promoting sustainable practices across the renewable energy industry. We do this through a combination of:

- Running local community initiatives (see pg. 10).
- Contributing to events and activities organised by Wind Energy Ireland (of which we are an active member).
- Sponsoring national events, such as the BT Young Scientist and Technology Exhibition (see pg. 10).
- Supporting social services, such as the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (see pg. 10).

### **Our ESG journey**

We are committed to implementing best practice for better financial and ESG results. We also continue to progress on our journey in disclosing and reporting on ESG matters.

- In 2020, the investment manager actively engaged with CDP and investors in preparation to make its first disclosure. A pilot version was successfully completed, and we now plan to partake fully for the 2021 reporting period.
- We commissioned the development of a carbon strategy by an experienced Dublin based sustainability consultant. This strategy will help identify and manage our Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol for the 2021 reporting period.

### ESG oversight and implementation

The ESG management process is a collaboration between Greencoat Renewables PLC, Greencoat Capital and individual third party operating managers who manage each specific renewable energy asset. This is implemented as follows:

- 1. The Company's ESG Policy<sup>3</sup> has been developed by Greencoat Capital and is approved and overseen by the Greencoat Renewables PLC Board.
- 2. Day-to-day management of our ESG policy is delegated by our Board to Greencoat Capital.
- 3. The Greencoat Capital asset management team is dedicated to managing the Greencoat Renewables PLC portfolio, with support from the wider Greencoat Capital team.

- Alongside Wind Energy Ireland, we have sponsored a research project led by Trinity College Dublin to develop the tools needed to optimise land management and the delivery of biodiversity benefits from onshore wind farms (see Case Study on pg. 8).
- We hired an experienced independent consultant to develop and execute an electrical safety audit plan. The results were shared with industry and Wind Energy Ireland to help the industry better understand and improve best practices in this area (see Case Study on pg. 12).
- 4. The Greencoat Capital asset management team sits on the Board of each wind farm company to ensure strong oversight. The team engages monthly on ESG performance along with third party operating managers who have day-to-day onsite responsibility for the operation of each renewable energy asset.
- 5. The investment and asset management teams report to the Board of Greencoat Renewables PLC monthly.
- 6. Greencoat Renewables PLC tracks its performance carefully and seeks to provide transparent information to shareholders through this annual ESG Report. This supports our ongoing efforts to monitor, adjust and improve our approach and the value we generate for shareholders.

3 https://www.greencoat-renewables.com/~/media/Files/G/Greencoat-Renewables/documents/reports-publications/2020/grp-esg-policy-sept-2020.pdf

### 4 Our approach to responsible investment (Continued)

### Robust approach to ESG throughout the lifecycle of our renewable energy assets

Greencoat Renewables PLC turns a strong commitment to ESG into practical action through the implementation of a rigorous ESG Policy. The policy defines our objectives and includes specific steps we take to identify, mitigate and manage ESG related risks and opportunities throughout the lifecycle of our renewable energy assets:



#### Sustaining and adapting our approach in market expansion

2020 saw Greencoat Renewables PLC acquire three operating assets in France. This same robust and systematic approach to ESG due diligence was followed and tailored to the new market. We worked with independent specialists in the French market to achieve the best results. We organised specialist training for the directors of the new French wind farm companies, as well as for the Greencoat Capital asset management team, to improve its understanding of health and safety matters in France.

### ESG areas of importance to our renewable energy assets

On the following pages of the report, we cover the five ESG areas most relevant to our renewable energy assets and the impact they have as they contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals:



### 4a. Producing renewable energy

### The urgent need for energy transition and our role

The world faces a significant climate challenge, as stated by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. With the EU setting a legally binding net-zero carbon target by 2050, there is a growing focus on mobilising and deploying capital to decarbonise the economy, build resilience and create jobs. Scaling up renewable energy generation is a core part of the successful and just transition.

Our role	Driving the transition		Accelerating systemic change	
Investing in renewable energy assets is the core of our business.	Directly providing capital to support the renewable energy industry.	$\rightarrow$	Attracting more investment to the renewable energy industry by delivering and demonstrating strong financial performance.	
	Securing the future of our renewable energy assets and long term returns for our shareholders.	$\rightarrow$	Creating wider support for renewable energy assets by demonstrating the benefits they generate to the environment, the economy and local communities, creating advocates and overcoming concerns.	

### **Our contribution**

In the past year, thanks to a range of acquisitions, we have generated significantly more renewable energy and related CO<sub>2</sub> savings compared with 2019:



Equivalent number of homes powered⁵





Equivalent number of people whose electricity needs were met<sup>6</sup>

898,862



- Throughout this document, CO2 savings are calculated based on a factor of 0.4 tonnes of CO2 per MWh to reflect displaced thermal generation. We have adapted this approach from last year where we used the variable carbon intensity of the grid's electricity generation, since this new approach allows more consistent comparison across countries, years and the different asset types and funds that Greencoat Capital manages. Therefore, we have also restated previous years data, based on the same underlying electricity generated figures, which only had a minor impact on the results – 2018 savings are now 7.5% lower than previously calculated, 2019 savings are now 6.7% higher.
- Throughout this document, the equivalent number of homes powered is calculated based on Typical Domestic Consumption values. For our Irish wind farms this is based on an estimated Typical Domestic Consumption value of electricity per home of 4.2 MWh/annum by Commission for Energy Regulation (CER) updated in 2017. For our French wind farms this is based on an estimated Typical Domestic Consumption value of electricity per home of 5.8 MWh/annum according to estimates of total consumption from <u>RTE</u> updated in 2019 and number of households from <u>Institute national de la statistique et des études économiques</u> (Insee), updated in 2017.
- Throughout this document, the equivalent number of people whose electricity needs were met is calculated based:
  for Irish wind farms, on the Central Statistics Office's latest <u>Census of Population data</u>, gathered in 2016, of 2.75 persons per household.
  for French wind farms, on reports from <u>Insee</u>, updated in 2017, of 2.3 persons per household.

192,499

### 4b. Minimising our impact on the environment

### We recognise that our renewable energy assets interact with natural plant and animal life and involve land use changes that may affect local habitats.

Therefore, we are committed to protecting the local environment around our renewable energy assets through the implementation of robust environmental management systems. These include polices, periodic risk assessments, monitoring, and regular reporting to our Board, and the Boards of each of the wind farm companies. Through these measures, we also ensure compliance with all applicable laws, regulations and planning permissions for each of the renewable energy assets and ensure support from local communities.

### **Our actions**

- Greencoat Capital's asset management team works closely with environmental, ecological and planning consultants to develop and track progress against the environmental obligations of each renewable energy asset.
- Where necessary, we create Species and Habitat Management Plans covering ongoing monitoring, habitat management and reporting of birds, bats and mammals. This is industry best practice developed in consultation with key stakeholders including the National Parks and Wildlife Service.
- We actively manage forestry at our wind farms using specialist consultants and forestry services contractors in accordance with the Forestry Act 2014.<sup>7</sup>
- Biodiversity and ecosystems are managed in accordance with planning and environmental obligations, including preservation of habitats and mitigation of any identified adverse impacts.
- We take obligations to manage noise and shadow flicker levels at our wind farms seriously. We work with expert noise consultants and other specialist contractors to monitor these and liaise with local county councils and the Environment Protection Agency. Any concerns are reported to the Boards of the wind farm companies and escalated to the Greencoat Renewables PLC Board where necessary.



Greencoat Renewables PLC are sponsoring the Nature+ research project led by Trinity College Dublin, which aims to improve the biodiversity benefits of onshore wind farms. The four year initiative will develop the templates and tools required to optimise land management, including introducing an advanced smart monitoring system that will improve data collection in a cost efficient manner. This will improve environmental performance, de-risk investments in wind energy and increase the understanding of the positive impact of wind farms within communities.

<sup>7</sup> www.teagasc.ie/crops/forestry/advice/general-topics/forestry-act-2014

### 4c. Enhancing local communities

### We are committed to engaging with local stakeholders to ensure our renewable energy assets positively impact the communities in which they operate.

Our wind farms provide employment to rural communities and bring additional support through our community benefit schemes. These activities strengthen our presence and relationships in the communities surrounding our wind farms. They also help to protect the value of our investment and promote renewable energy generation throughout the countries in which they are based.

### Our actions supporting the community

We run community benefit schemes to help provide financial support for local groups. When we acquire a new renewable energy asset, we assess any existing community fund arrangement and make additional funding commitments if we believe the current arrangement is inadequate.

These, and previous years' contributions, focused on:

- Supporting education through funding new buildings, technological upgrades and prize sponsorship.
- Upgrades to athletic clubs and associations.

- Upgrades to health facilities, including the provision of defibrillators.
- Building and maintaining public amenities like footpaths, playgrounds and parking facilities.
- Upgrades to community centres and facilities.
- Supporting local communities to become more energy efficient.
- Supporting locally active charities, such as 'Meals on Wheels'.

In 2020, we delivered a range of activities to support communities responding to and recovering from COVID-19. This included specific funding for local communities that have been negatively impacted by of the pandemic, for example, providing hygiene products for sports clubs and IT equipment for schools to support the return to education.

With the growth of our portfolio, we are proud that in 2020 we significantly increased the contributions we made to local communities. We ensured that community funds were set up and implemented for our acquired wind farms: Killala, Letteragh, An Cnoc and Carrickallen. In addition to this, we completed projects for the French communities surrounding our three new wind farms in France.

Funds invested or committed to invest: €801,000	Community projects supported: 114			
2020	2020			
€674,200 <sup>2019</sup>	<b>90</b> 2019			

### Our actions to support local employment and procurement

Wind farms are often located in rural areas where members of the community may face limited job opportunities. Our wind farms help bring stable and skilled jobs to these communities in wind turbine management, electrical and civil maintenance, operations and regional support.

We also use our purchasing power, through the tendering process for goods and services, to support quality, local jobs and training. Examples of such local businesses in 2020 include Fincovi and Adman Civil Projects Limited. "Five full-time jobs were created for the duration of civil works for a plant and labour sub-contractor for the new wind turbine at Killala. Another ten short duration jobs were also created, including for stonemasons, surfacing contractors and security. They contribute valuable local knowledge to the project, which provides employment opportunities to an extensive supply chain with interest in the local community."

Sean Hagan, Adman Civil Projects Limited



## CASE STUDY 'Meals on Wheels' support for local communities

Glanaruddery Wind Farm, an 11 turbine, 36.3MW farm in Kerry, Ireland, provided community funding to Knockagoshel Over 55's Social Club & Women's Group. The €20,000 contribution enabled the charity to purchase a new van and equipment to support its meal and laundry delivery service for local people in Knocknagoshel, Kerry. As Catherine Lenihan, the charity's Chairperson said, "*This van is ideal for this purpose and is a wonderful addition to our little fleet of vehicles*". In 2020, having faced a huge increase in need because of COVID-19 and the vulnerable groups they serve, this helped the charity to deliver 28,943 hot meals.



### case study Cloosh Valley Scholarships

Galway Wind Park, a 36 turbine, 108MW farm in Galway, Ireland, supported 17 students in 2020 with over €59,000 awarded as part of the Galway Wind Park (Cloosh Valley) scholarship programme. The programme is designed to help third level students who live within 20km of the wind farm with their education costs, by covering 50% of their tuition fees for up to three years. Scholarships are available annually to undergraduate and postgraduate students both full time and part time from universities and other educational institutions across Ireland.



### CASE STUDY Encouraging children into STEM

2020 marked the first year Greencoat Renewables PLC has sponsored a special award for sustainability as part of the BT Young Scientist & Technology Exhibition. The initiative has been running in Ireland since 1963 and is designed to raise school engagement in the critical subjects of science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM). More than 1,000 students aged 12-19 years from all over Ireland took part in 2020, allowing them to showcase their innovative science and technology projects.

### CASE STUDY Supporting victims of sexual

violence Established in 1979, the Dublin Rape Crisis Centre (DRCC) helps to prevent the harm and heal the trauma of sexual violence, a serious public health and human rights issue, with both short and long term consequences for those affected. Greencoat Renewables PLC has committed €12,000 per annum

for three years to help fund the work of the DRCC. The contribution will help the charity with essential services like managing the National 24-Hour Helpline and supporting its transition to increased online services due to the impact of COVID-19, as well as providing information, training and much needed support as lockdowns ease and people have the freedom to seek support more easily.



# 4d. Promoting wellbeing and a positive work environment

## With 21 renewable energy assets across the Republic of Ireland and France, we help create and sustain quality jobs in rural areas.

We are committed to ensuring safe workplaces. Health and safety is vital to creating an engaged and productive workforce, along with resilient and responsible business practices. We recognise the importance of supporting both local firms with employment, and also working with expert international leaders who have strong standards for worker wellbeing and fair employment.

### **Our Health and Safety actions**

- We take our role to manage and minimise any potential health and safety risks seriously, as accidents can occur at wind farms if they are not managed carefully. Senior level engagement around health and safety is essential in nurturing a proactive safety culture. For each fully owned wind farm company, there is a nominated Health and Safety Director from the Investment Manager. The Board of Greencoat Renewables PLC also reviews health and safety matters at each of its scheduled meetings.
- Strong health and safety policies are created for each wind farm company and are reviewed annually. These policies and their implementation are audited externally by a specialist health and safety consultant. At the end of 2020, all our wind farm companies had health and safety policies in place.
- In 2020, our third party operating managers conducted health and safety audits of all 21 wind farms. Also, independent accredited professionals audited 12 of our wind farms. These audits are used to build plans to improve health and safety outcomes further.
- We monitor a set of common key performance indicators to continuously improve our health and safety management and performance. They are reported monthly, at a minimum, directly to the asset management team, the Directors of the wind farm companies and the Board of Greencoat Renewables PLC. We are pleased that in 2020 there were no lost time incidents at our wind farms.
- Greencoat Capital supports our approach and conducts annual site visits to discuss health and safety matters with third party operating managers.

Number of renewable energy assets that received an independent health and safety audit





## 4d. Promoting wellbeing and a positive work environment (Continued)

### Keeping workers safe during COVID-19

As a result of a sustained focus on worker safety at our wind farm companies, we have been able to adapt rapidly to the increasing need for new COVID-19 safety measures to keep everyone safe on site. All 21 of our wind farm companies have enhanced hygiene procedures and require social distancing rules to be adhered to by all workers. Greencoat Renewables PLC has been an active part of the Wind Energy Ireland COVID-19 taskforce which is made up of owners and operators of wind farms along with contractors for wind turbines and other services. This has resulted in the nomination of wind generation as an essential service, the publication of guidelines for safe working and the sharing of information on pandemic management.

### CASE STUDY Electrical safety audit carried out

To maintain best practice in health and safety, and risk management, a risk assessment was completed in 2019 which highlighted electrical safety as a key risk area. We hired an experienced independent consultant to develop and implement an electrical safety audit plan. It focused on the competency of operations managers, the state of electrical equipment, and the policies and procedures of third party operating managers. The findings from relevant audits were openly shared with Wind Energy Ireland and disseminated to other owners and operators of wind farms. This leadership in electrical safety will help to improve best practice across the wind industry in Ireland.



### Ensuring fair and rewarding employment

We believe in ensuring workers at our renewable energy assets are treated fairly and have a positive working environment. To achieve this:

- We gather evidence of best practice from our service providers and look for ways to encourage and scale these up. For instance, surveys were undertaken by one contractor to understand how people are adapting to working from home given the restrictions created by COVID-19.
- We have a clear focus on raising awareness around the potential risks of forced labour or modern slavery in our supply chains. We require all new service providers to sign up to the Greencoat Capital 'Code of Conduct Side Letter', which specifically includes clauses related to health and safety and modern slavery.

### 4e. Strong focus on governance

# The strength of our governance framework allows us to ensure the long term success of the business and protect the interests of all stakeholders.

#### Setting expectations of wind farm companies

We set clear expectations of all wind farm companies as part of the applicable ESG Policies. These specify requirements to ensure effective governance across all ESG factors. In addition to the oversight mentioned above:

- At least one Greencoat Capital representative sits on the Board of every wind farm company in which we have an interest, to monitor and influence financial, technical and ESG performance.
- Wind farm companies must carry out appropriate due diligence to ensure any newly engaged outsourced service providers are reputable and responsible.
- There is a zero tolerance approach to bribery and corruption. All wind farm companies must comply with all applicable anti-money laundering and anti-bribery and corruption legislation. Where possible, they must also implement equivalent policies on anti-bribery and corruption, antimoney laundering, or conflicts of interest to those held by Greencoat Capital.

### Managing cyber security challenges

In 2020, we managed cyber security across the portfolio of operating assets to help respond to the growing risk that cyber attacks pose to the effective operation of wind farms. The Greencoat Capital team through its service providers has continued to raise awareness. In some instances they have carried out vulnerability and penetration testing and ongoing monitoring, and have enhanced incidence response procedures, where necessary.

### **Climate related risks and disclosures**

As a Company investing in renewables energy assets, we are making a positive contribution to the global goal of achieving a net-zero carbon emissions economy and limiting global warming to 1.5°C degrees. The Board and Greencoat Capital meet regularly and discuss risk management, including climate related risks as they naturally relate to the Company's renewable energy assets.

The Board is aware of the Company's responsibility to provide transparent and comparable climate related information to shareholders. These disclosures are included in the <u>Company's Annual Report 2020</u> in line with the recommendations of the TCFD.

Greencoat Renewables PLC is also committed to enhancing its disclosure on climate related questions through our CDP submission. This will involve wider disclosure of environmental impact data, including greenhouse gas emissions and will enable us to understand better where and how we impact the environment, so that we can manage our assets more effectively.

In support of wider disclosure on climate and other ESG issues, we also developed our knowledge and understanding of the new Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation (SFDR), the EU's legislation concerning how we report and communicate our sustainability and ESG performance.

### ESG oversight of service providers

Greencoat Renewables PLC continues to expand and strengthen its approach to selecting and managing service providers and ensuring strong ESG credentials throughout the supply chain. In 2020:

We confirmed that 100% of third party asset managers have policies to cover a range of ESG matters, building on the best practice model of Code of Conduct Side Letters developed by Greencoat Capital to guide partners on critical issues. The issues covered include bribery and corruption; data protection and privacy (including cyber security); governance, business ethics and integrity; modern slavery; environmental management; workers' health and safety; and community engagement.

### Looking ahead: focus on accelerating change

The need for a transition to a net-zero economy is now clearer than ever – and increasingly this goal has the legislative and funding frameworks in place to enable it. The landmark 2021 UN Climate Change Conference COP26 in Glasgow will help align and accelerate international action, while support under the European Recovery Fund and the European Green Deal provide much-needed clarity for investors.

We have the ambition to increase significantly our renewable energy generation and the above developments will create strong opportunities for our business to play its role. With our acquisitions and expansion into a new geography in 2020, we have significant momentum which we plan to sustain in the years to come. We will always embrace responsible investment practices as we help decarbonise the economy, including ensuring that workers on our sites remain safe during the continued COVID-19 pandemic.

Enhanced disclosure of our activities and impacts will remain a priority, increasing transparency for shareholders and other stakeholders, and we are already progressing with full participation in CDP reporting for 2021.

Through all our activities, the commitment to excellence in ESG management continues to be a key priority for both the Board and Investment Manager, Greencoat Capital. This commitment to excellence will reinforce our ability to deliver long term value.



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