# Independent Assurance Statement to the Management of Land Securities Group PLC

# Scope

We have been engaged by Land Securities Group PLC ("the Group") to perform a 'limited assurance engagement,' as defined by International Standards on Assurance Engagements, here after referred to as the engagement, to report on Landsec's selected performance data and qualitative statements, for the period from 01 April 2021 to 31 March 2022, in the following (collectively referred to as "the Report"):

- → The Group's Our approach to sustainability, Build well, Live Well and Act well sections of the Strategic Report
- $\rightarrow$  The sustainability content in the Additional Information section of the Group's 2022 Annual Report and Accounts; and
- → The online Sustainability Performance and Data Report 2022.

Specifically, our statement is applicable to the following disclosures (the "Subject Matter"):

## $\rightarrow$ Greenhouse gas emissions:

- Direct GHG emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e):
  - Emissions related to refrigerant gases
  - Emissions related to natural gas usage
- Indirect GHG emissions (tCO<sub>2</sub>e):
  - Emissions related to electricity consumption and district heating & cooling consumption
  - Emissions related to all disclosed scope 3 categories
- GHG intensity from building energy (KgCO<sub>2</sub>e/m<sup>2</sup>)

# → Energy:

- Energy consumption (kWh):
  - Energy from landlord-obtained fuels
  - Energy from landlord-obtained electricity
  - Energy from landlord-obtained district heating & cooling
  - Renewable electricity consumption
- Energy intensity (kWh/m²/year)

#### → Waste:

- Operational waste diverted from landfill (tonnes), and percentage of operational waste recycled
- Construction waste (tonnes)
- Percentage of construction waste recycled and diverted from landfill
- → Safety: Number of RIDDOR incidents for Landsec's managed portfolio and development assets
- $\rightarrow$  **Social value:** Social value created during the year (£)
- $\rightarrow$  **Water:** Water usage (m<sup>3</sup>)
- → Statements and assertions disclosed in the Report, selected on a risk basis.

Other than as described in the preceding section, which sets out the scope of our engagement, we did not perform assurance procedures on the remaining information included in the Report, and accordingly, we do not express a conclusion on this information.

## Criteria applied by Land Securities Group Plc

In preparing the Subject Matter, the Group applied its sustainability reporting methodologies as set out in the Sustainability Performance and Data Report 2022 (the "Criteria")

## Land Securities Group PLC's responsibilities

The Group's management is responsible for selecting the Criteria, and for presenting the Subject Matter in accordance with that Criteria, in all material respects. This responsibility includes establishing and maintaining internal controls, maintaining adequate records and making estimates that are relevant to the preparation of the Subject Matter, such that it is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### EY's responsibilities

Our responsibility is to express a conclusion on the presentation of the Subject Matter based on the evidence we have obtained.

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the International Standard for Assurance Engagements Other Than Audits or Reviews of Historical Financial Information ('ISAE 3000' Revised), and the terms of reference for this engagement as agreed with the Group on 2nd March 2022. Those standards require that we plan and perform our engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether, in all material respects, the Subject Matter is presented in accordance with the Criteria, and to issue a report. The nature, timing, and extent of the procedures selected depend on our judgment, including an assessment of the risk of material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

We believe that the evidence obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our limited assurance conclusions.

# Our Independence and Quality Control

We have maintained our independence and confirm that we have met the requirements of the Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants issued by the International Ethics Standards Board for Accountants and have the required competencies and experience to conduct this assurance engagement.

EY also applies International Standard on Quality Control 1, *Quality Control for Firms that Perform Audits and Reviews of Financial Statements, and Other Assurance and Related Services Engagements,* and accordingly maintains a comprehensive system of quality control including documented policies and procedures regarding compliance with ethical requirements, professional standards and applicable legal and regulatory requirements.

#### Description of procedures performed

Procedures performed in a limited assurance engagement vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement. Consequently the level of assurance obtained in a limited assurance engagement is substantially lower than the assurance that would have been obtained had a reasonable assurance engagement been performed. Our procedures were designed to obtain a limited level of assurance on which to base our conclusion and do not provide all the evidence that would be required to provide a reasonable level of assurance.

Although we considered the effectiveness of management's internal controls when determining the nature and extent of our procedures, our assurance engagement was not designed to provide assurance on internal controls. Our procedures did not include testing controls or performing procedures relating to checking aggregation or calculation of data within IT systems.

A limited assurance engagement consists of making enquiries, primarily of persons responsible for preparing the Subject Matter and related information and applying analytical and other appropriate procedures.

Our procedures included:

- Interviewed a selection of the Group's management to understand the progress made in the area of sustainability during the reporting period and to test the coverage of topics within the Report.
- 2. **Conducted site visits with The Forge and Bluewater** to understand how the sustainability agenda is being managed at development and site level.
- 3. Analysed the coverage of key issues within the **Report** against the topics discussed in our management interviews and site visits.
- 4. **Interviewed staff responsible for data reporting** and carried out the following activities to assess the Subject Matter:
  - a. Assessed the guidance on data reporting, key processes and quality assurance performed.
  - b. Selected a sample of data points from across the business and sought documentary evidence to support the data.
  - c. Conducted a walk-through of data reported from a sample of sites to test consolidation.
  - d. Assessed any explanations provided for significant variances.
  - e. Assessed the Report for the appropriate presentation of the data including limitations and assumptions.
- 5. Analysed information or explanation about selected statements and assertions regarding the sustainability performance of the Group.

We also performed such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

# Conclusion

Based on our procedures and the evidence obtained, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to Subject Matter as of 31st March 2022, in order for it to be in accordance with the Criteria.

#### Restricted use

This statement is intended solely for the information and use of Land Securities Group PLC and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than the Group.

## Ernst & Young LLP,

01 June 2022 London