

Helsinki City Premises Ltd
Sustainability programme
Space for sustainable urban life

2025

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“We at Helsinki City Premises work at cultural heritage sites, but with our eyes on the future. We aim for bold openings and development also when promoting the sustainability of urban life.

A sustainable and forward-looking city is built together. That is why collaboration is at the heart of our sustainability programme.”

1. City Premises and sustainability

Helsinki City Premises Ltd is a City of Helsinki subsidiary that leases out and develops the city's culturally and historically significant premises, areas and trading posts. The company plays an important role in revitalising the city's cultural heritage and maintaining its vitality.

Sustainability is reflected in the operations of Helsinki City Premises as social, cultural, ecological and economic sustainability. This sustainability programme summarises the themes and objectives relevant to the operations of Helsinki City Premises in one document.

The sustainability programme is based on a materiality analysis carried out in autumn 2024 (p. 6), which involved gathering the views of staff and stakeholders on the priorities of Helsinki City Premises' sustainability work. The programme was prepared by Sitowise Oy in cooperation with Helsinki City Premises. The implementation of the programme is managed and monitored with the EcoCompass system.



2. Sustainability is about collaboration and securing a shared future

The sustainability work of Helsinki City Premises is directly influenced by the City of Helsinki's group steering with its sustainability objectives and programmes, as well as the city's commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The main stakeholders in the sustainability work of Helsinki City Premises, in addition to the city group, are its staff, partners, lessees and visitors, i.e. residents and tourists.

The objective of Helsinki City Premises' sustainability programme is to facilitate, encourage and promote responsible choices by stakeholders, in addition to developing responsible practices in its own operations.



3. Materiality analysis highlighting sustainability work priorities

Helsinki City Premises' sustainability programme is based on the **UN Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development** and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which cover ecological, social and economic sustainability.

The materiality analysis of the company's sustainability work was prepared based on the strategic documents steering the operations of Helsinki City Premises, as well as the results of **stakeholder interviews** and a **staff workshop**. Representatives of different divisions and lessees of premises were interviewed as stakeholders.

As a result of the analysis, four Agenda 2030 objectives emerged as the most relevant to the operations of Helsinki City Premises:

- **Sustainable cities and communities**
- **Climate actions**
- **Responsible consumption**
- **Decent work and economic growth**



4. Sustainable development goals relevant to us

11 KESTÄVÄT
KAUPUNGIT
JA YHTEISÖT



Sustainable Development Goal 11 is at the core of the work of Helsinki City Premises. Stakeholder discussions highlighted the notion of **the company as a creator and developer of cooperation**. The company's core activity, **the management and development of properties and areas of cultural and historical value**, supports and advances this objective in Helsinki. Achieving the objective requires particular attention to the overall sustainability of the management and use of properties – in this respect, the company's current practices were highly praised.

12 VASTUULLISTA
KULUTTAMISTA



Responsible consumption is made an essential sustainability work priority in the operations of Helsinki City Premises, **through lessee selection** and, on the other hand, the company's **own procurements**. The stakeholder discussions highlighted the company's ability to influence lessee selections and, on the other hand, to steer and encourage current lessees towards a more responsible product range. The staff workshop highlighted a need for sustainability criteria for in-house procurements.

13 ILMASTOTEKOJA



Through the properties that it manages, the company plays an important role in the **sustainable maintenance and energy use of old buildings**, particularly as a promoter of cooperation and dialogue. Old buildings consume large amounts of energy, but when aiming for energy efficiency, it is particularly important to understand the starting points created by the special characteristics of old buildings. The company's role as a party bringing operators together in this discussion is important, as is communication with lessees on energy and material use. Adapting to climate change was also identified as an important theme in property maintenance.

8 IHMISARVOISTA
TYÖTÄ JA
TALOUSKASVUA



Through the premises that it manages, Helsinki City Premises provides commercial premises for businesses, products and services, thus **facilitating the creation and preservation of jobs**, and provides commercial premises visible and inviting in the urban space for small entrepreneurs. Co-development of areas supports their vitality and maintains and increases visitor flows. Through its lessees, Helsinki City Premises plays an important role in creating jobs in the areas that it manages.

5. Creation of the sustainability programme

The results of the materiality analysis were used to build a sustainability programme for Helsinki City Premises, including a sustainability pledge, themes, objectives and indicators.

The formulation of the themes, pledge and objectives took into account the special characteristics of Helsinki City Premises' operations, the themes identified in the materiality analysis, and sustainability measures identified as effective. Classified under three main themes, the objectives implement sustainability in a broad sense, taking into account ecological, social, cultural and economic sustainability alike.

The sustainability pledge was summarised as ***Space for sustainable urban life***.

The pledge is presented in more detail on the next slide.



6. Responsibility pledge



Space for sustainable urban life

We will keep premises of cultural and historical value in Helsinki occupied and full of life. We will ensure that the premises have a high occupancy rate. We will select lessees whose activities support responsible consumption and enrich urban culture. We will carry out new trials to promote circular economy and sustainable use of the urban space in cooperation with our partners. We will provide safe and inspiring places for Helsinki residents to get together and share activities.

7. Sustainability themes

Helsinki City Premises' sustainability programme is built on the three themes listed below. The first theme emphasises a high occupancy rate and responsible maintenance of premises, as well as the pursuit of energy efficiency.

The second theme focuses on activities carried out in our premises. Lessees are selected responsibly and visitors are encouraged to make sustainable consumption choices. The principles of circular economy are reflected in all of our operations.

The third theme highlights the role of Helsinki City Premises in terms of cultural and social sustainability, as a provider of meeting places for Helsinki residents and as a facilitator of urban culture and trials.

1



Valuable city premises in sustainable use

**#culturalsustainability
#ecologicalsustainability**

2



Responsible consumption and circular economy

**#ecologicalsustainability
#economicsustainability**

3



A living and shared cultural environment

**#socialsustainability
#culturalsustainability**

1 Valuable city premises in sustainable use

We ensure that our premises have a high occupancy rate and are maintained sustainability. We strive for energy efficiency while respecting the special characteristics of old buildings.



#culturalsustainability
#ecologicalsustainability

Objectives

- **As a rule, we always keep our premises occupied, through temporary use if necessary**
- **We open unoccupied premises for use and improve the utilisation of underused premises**
- **We maintain the properties that we manage in a sustainable manner**
 - We will improve the monitoring of water and energy consumption and reduce consumption on our properties.
 - We will look for opportunities to develop our locations and their energy-efficient use, while respecting the special characteristics of old buildings.
- **We take the impacts of climate change adaptation and extreme weather into account in our operations**

Indicators and monitoring

- Leasing rate of premises
- Occupancy rate of premises
- Energy consumption of properties
- Measures taken to improve energy efficiency
- Measures taken to adapt to climate change

2 Responsible consumption and circular economy

We select lessees whose business activities are sustainable. We encourage our visitors to make sustainable consumption choices.

We operate according to the principles of circular economy.



#ecologicalsustainability
#economicsustainability

Objectives

- **Sustainable business is our lessee selection criterion**
 - We will facilitate new, small-scale and/or local business activities by providing diverse premises and low-threshold trial opportunities (private persons, micro-enterprises, second hand, circular economy, immaterial consumption, new innovations).
 - We will support our lessees' responsible business activities through collaboration, communication and peer learning.
- **We minimise the amount of waste generated in our locations and develop circular economy solutions**
 - We will develop the utilisation of food waste in collaboration with our lessees.
- **We establish clear sustainability criteria favouring circular economy for our procurements and partnerships and communicate about them openly**
 - We will increase co-use opportunities, particularly in the development of event platforms.

Indicators and monitoring

- Total amount of waste on different properties
- Proportion of recyclable fractions on different properties
- Measures taken to improve recycling
- Proportion of procurements made in accordance with the sustainability criteria (%)
- Sustainability information and training events carried out
- Circular economy trials carried out
- Visibility of lessees' sustainability actions in communications
- Development of the assessment of the sustainability of lessees

3 A living and shared cultural environment

We are developing sustainable, inspiring and forward-looking use of locations of cultural and historical significance. We provide places for coming together and sharing activities.



#socialsustainability
#culturalsustainability

Objectives

- **We collaborate with different operators to develop innovative and sustainable ways of utilising the urban space**
 - We will highlight the cultural characteristics of our premises in our operations, events and communications.
 - We will make sure that our premises are psychologically and physically safe and as accessible as possible for employees, lessees and visitors alike.
- **We support and produce living and diverse urban culture together with our lessees and partners**
 - We will provide free-of-charge events and other accessible ways to find and use the shared cultural environment.
 - We will cherish the diversity of our premises and our lessees.
- **We provide Helsinki residents with opportunities to influence the future of our locations**
- **We provide tourists with sustainable and authentic places to visit**

Indicators and monitoring

- Number of visitors at events
- Monitoring of event types
- Number of visitors in our locations
- Adherence to the principles of a safe space in operations and events
- Co-development projects and trials carried out and their results
- Measures taken to improve accessibility
- Verbal assessment of the realisation of diversity
- Proportion of lessees matching the profile in different locations (%)

8. Implementation and monitoring of sustainability work

To achieve the objectives of the sustainability programme, different measures are selected and implemented each year for each theme.

The implementation of measures is managed and monitored with the [EcoCompass](#) environmental management system. The EcoCompass system features all the measures and indicators of the sustainability programme, which are refined and updated as necessary. EcoCompass also serves as our annual reporting tool.

EcoCompass is an industry-independent environmental management system based on the international ISO 14011 standard.

The EcoCompass system is owned by the Finnish Association for Nature Conservation.



Thank you for reading our sustainability programme.

Sustainability work is about continuous development and collaboration. If you have any questions or ideas for improvement regarding the programme, please contact:

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