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Newcastle Building Society signs the UN Principles for Responsible Banking

Newcastle Building Society has become a signatory of the UN Principles for Responsible Banking – a single framework for a sustainable banking industry developed through a collaboration between banks and building societies worldwide and the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative (UNEP FI).

Through the Principles, banks and buildings societies take action to ensure their strategy and practice align with the vision society has set out for its future in the UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Climate Agreement.

Andrew Haigh, Newcastle Building Society CEO said: “We are proud to commit to the UNEP FI Principles for Responsible Banking, and by doing so, join the world’s largest global banking community focused on sustainable finance. In an ever-changing world we recognise our responsibility to build the long-term economic, social and environmental value for our communities.

“As a member-owned organisation, we’re committed to the people and places that make up our communities, and the things that matter to them. Being a signatory to the Principles and joining UNEP FI is an explicit commitment from us to being ambitious in our sustainability strategies and decision-making to create positive change for our communities. And as the Society continues to grow and innovate, it will help us seize opportunities arising from the transition to a more sustainable society.”

Under the Principles, signatories identify and measure the environmental and social impact resulting from their business activities, set and implement targets where they have the most significant impact, and regularly report publicly on their progress.

Signatories to the Principles share best practice and work together on practical guidance and pioneering tools which benefit the entire industry and accelerate the changes necessary to achieve shared prosperity for both current and future generations.

- Ends -

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About us

Newcastle Building Society is the UK's 7th largest building society with 32 branches across the North East, Cumbria and North Yorkshire. A branch in Manchester city centre will open later this year under the Manchester Building Society brand. The Society has assets of more than £6.2bn. It has been there for its members for over 160 years. Financial Advice is provided through its Newcastle Financial Advisers Limited subsidiary. Newcastle Financial Advisers has consistently been awarded Top Rated Firm status by VouchedFor - the UK's leading review site for Financial Advisers.

We help people to own their home, to save and to plan their finances through our range of products and services. We believe in the role of the high street at the heart of our communities and we're proactive in making financial information and financial advice accessible across our regions.

We're dedicated to helping our communities make positive changes; since 1995 the financial support through grants and donations from the Newcastle Building Society Community Fund at the Community Foundation to benefit local causes has surpassed £1.7m.

As a leading local employer, we're committed to growing our region's talent and being a great place to work where people can realise their potential. We hold Platinum IIP. We are a Real Living Wage employer and were the first building society in the UK to become an accredited Living Pension employer in 2024. We have been named Regional Building Society of the Year for eight consecutive years (2017–2024) by What Mortgage? and Best Overall Personal Finance Brand at the Personal Finance Awards 2023/24 and 2024/25. In 2024 Newcastle Building Society became the first UK business to receive international accreditation for mutual value measurement, recognising our ongoing commitment to creating value for our members and communities.