Net Zero Neighbourhoods Report Launched To Further the Uptake for a Low Carbon Future

New research by AESG in collaboration with the LDN Collective and West London Business outlines key principles and case studies for planning and designing net zero neighbourhoods

London, United Kingdom– Embargoed until 00.01 6 March, 2024 – With developers in parts of West London unable to build new homes until 2035 due to the lack of electricity supply, it is imperative for local authorities, developers and the built environment industry to future proof their cities by investing in decarbonisation projects.

AESG, an international consultancy, engineering and advisory firm, in collaboration with the LDN Collective (a network of built environment experts & creatives fighting to improve people's lives & the planet's prospects) and West London Business (representing the private sector in the UK's largest sub-regional economy) have released new research that identifies 10 principles for planning and designing net zero neighbourhoods, with 10 global case studies to learn from, and a summary of the latest innovations accelerating change. The report aims to give confidence to governments, city planners, investors and developers to embrace more radical innovation, explore new funding models and skill up to retrofit at scale, in order to future-proof developments for a more resilient future.

The research highlights 10 key areas of focus exemplified by 10 neighbourhood scale projects that have been built around the world with evidence-based outcomes. The focus areas range from optimisation; renewable technology; renewable energy; heat networks; local authority engagement; socio-economic benefits; demand response and energy storage through to funding mechanisms, digitisation and automation.

Commenting on the piece, Max Farrell, Founder & CEO of the LDN Collective and Chair of Built Environment for West London Business said

> *"Addressing climate change at the neighbourhood scale is a complex challenge that can only be done collectively, and it needs immediate and radical action to be taken. Within the UK, government at every level has committed to achieve net zero within the next 15-30 years, yet local authorities face significant challenges funding the transition. We hope this report will help provide clarity on the principles that need to be followed, with examples of outcomes from those who have already embarked on the journey to net zero"*

Niall Bolger, CEO of the London Borough of Hounslow and Co-Chair of the Cities Commission for Climate Investment (3Ci) said;

> *"We commend West London Business, the LDN Collective and AESG for providing leadership and guidance that will help support the UK's vision for achieving net zero, building on the business case published by 3Ci, and raising the bar for sustainable neighbourhoods worldwide."*

The report, developed by AESG's globally renowned team of sustainability experts, and supported by West London Business and the LDN Collective, focuses on the principles that achieving net zero neighbourhoods requires - planning a community development at the macro-level, understanding interdependencies of systems and implementing solutions to mitigate the risks.

Briefly summarising the insight and guidance informed by the case studies, Sam Luker AESG's Associate Sustainability Director said.

"Approaching Net Zero from the Neighbourhood perspective enables a more holistic and attainable approach to the decarbonisation of our urban environment. By bringing together a mix of residential, retail and other commercial uses, we are able to create scale and most importantly, a revenue stream that unlocks private capital for decarbonisation projects. Furthermore, the Net Zero Neighbourhoods approach necessitates collaboration between the public and the private sectors, both of which are working towards the same goal. Innovative funding mechanisms and a focus on socio-economic value facilitates community buy in and the roll out of decarbonisation projects. This enables sustainable design measures to be implemented at the neighbourhood level, facilitating the UK's bottom up transition towards Net Zero".

The '**Net Zero Neighbourhoods: Redesigning Neighbourhoods for a Low Carbon Future**' **Report** is available as a free download from: www.westlondon.com/netzeroneighbourhoods-report

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Photo Caption: Brent Cross Town, UK
Photo Caption: KENSA HEAT THE STREETS, CORNWALL, UK
Photo Caption: GREENHAUS, MANCHESTER, UK

About AESG
AESG is an international Consultancy, Engineering and Advisory firm committed to driving sustainability in the built environment and beyond. With the highest calibre leadership team in our

field, we pair technical knowledge with practical experience to provide hands-on, bespoke strategic solutions to our clients.

We have one of the largest dedicated specialist consultancy teams working on projects within the building, urban planning, infrastructure and strategic advisory sectors. With decades of cumulative experience, our team offers specialist expertise in sustainable design, sustainable engineering, fire and life safety, façade engineering, commissioning, digital delivery, waste management, environmental consultancy, strategy and advisory, cost management and acoustics. Our prestigious portfolio demonstrates our extensive capabilities and our ability to consistently deliver best in class solutions to some of the industry's most complex technical challenges.

www.aesg.com

About the LDN Collective
The LDN Collective is a network of built environment experts and creatives fighting to improve people's lives and the planet's prospects. Our members are experts in social impact, zero carbon and modern methods of construction as well as architecture, engineering, graphic design and film-making. As a diverse and eclectic group, we are bound by a set of values and a cost-effective business model. Whether it's a thought leadership campaign or the design and construction of a piece of city, we are a 'one stop shop' for projects anywhere in the world.

Our projects are setting new standards for environmental, social and financial goals, including a masterplan for a new garden community in Huntingdonshire with 5000 homes and a hub for green industries; design and delivery of mixed-use urban regeneration projects; #ParkPower the most comprehensive study of London's green spaces ever undertaken and a vision for the future of health and wellbeing highly commended by the Wolfson Prize.

www.ldn-collective.com

About West London Business
West London Business is a business-led non-profit established in 1994 with a diverse membership including companies such as Heathrow, Quintain, Amazon and Argent Related, SMEs, social enterprises, FE colleges and universities. We are proud to represent hundreds of member companies from multinationals to SMEs and have a reach of 25,000+ supporters receiving our e-newsletters. We have long term strategic partnerships with local authorities, the GLA, local chambers and business groups, as well as non-profits.

West London is an amazing sub-region: it's a £73bn+ economy and the second largest economic powerhouse in the UK. Our members commit to work together to raise West London's global economic competitiveness, whilst catalysing action for people and planet. Over the past thirty years we have delivered significant positive impacts for the local economy, society and environment.

https://westlondon.com/