

GUIDELINES RELATING TO THE OVERALL GOAL AND STRATEGY OF SUSTAINABILITY ACTIVITIES IN THE HANDELSBANKEN GROUP

established by the Chief Executive Officer on 19 December 2023

Information class: Open

Handelsbanken's business model facilitates responsible banking operations where the Bank, by developing and offering customers sustainable products and services within our core operations of financing, investment and advisory services, can work to maximise the Bank's positive impact, minimise our negative impact and in so doing promote a more sustainable society. Sustainability is a broad concept, which includes environmental, economic and social aspects such as good corporate governance, and which affects all the Bank's operations.

The Central Board of Handelsbanken has adopted a policy for sustainability in the Handelsbanken Group, supplemented by guidelines from the Chief Executive Officer in a number of key areas. In addition, to highlight the central themes of the strategic direction of the Handelsbanken Group's sustainability activities, the following specific objectives have been formulated.

1. Overall goals

- **Best in the sector:** The Bank is to be – and be perceived as – the most sustainable bank among its peer competitors.
- **Climate neutrality:** The Bank is to achieve net zero emissions of greenhouse gases as soon as possible, and by 2040 at the latest. This covers lending, leasing and investments, as well as Handelsbanken's own operations¹, such as energy consumption and business travel.

2. Business strategy goals

- **Responsible financing:** By 2025, 20 per cent of the Bank's financing volume is to consist of green financing, social financing or financing that contributes to a sustainable, measurable transition by the borrower.
- **Responsible investment:** Investment portfolios must be in line with the climate goals of the Paris Agreement in terms of net zero emissions of greenhouse gases by 2040 and increasing the mutual funds' contribution to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Sub-goals include reducing our emission intensity by 50 per cent and doubling investments in climate-related solutions by 2030, as well as a 30 per cent increase to the share of sustainable investment by 2025, and annual increases in positive outcomes of engagement activities.

¹ i.e. operations that are not linked to the Bank's business operations.

- Advisory services for gender-equal savings: Handelsbanken's aim is to create opportunities for an improved financial situation for women, and thus promote a gender equal economy. The objective is to increase the proportion of women among Handelsbanken's customers who consider themselves to have strong skills in financial matters from 62 per cent in 2023 to 75 per cent by 2026, at the latest. This is to be achieved through training initiatives and advisory services that lead to:
 - i. the proportion of the relevant group of advisors with strong skills in gender equal economy and financial health increasing from 28 per cent in 2023 to 95 per cent in 2026, and
 - ii. the proportion of women in the customer group covered by the initiatives who assess their skills in financial matters as being strong increasing from 62 per cent in 2023 to 75 per cent in 2026.

The target regarding gender-equal advisory services applies to Sweden. The other home markets will implement their own metrics aimed at contributing to an improved financial situation for women.

3. Responsibilities, follow-up and reporting

The Head of Group Sustainability (CH) has the function responsibility for sustainability activities in the Handelsbanken Group, including establishing proposals for sustainability goals. Sustainability activities at the Bank are in keeping with the Bank's decentralised work method, whereby all parts of the Bank's operations are to contribute to the fulfilment of long-term goals.

The Head of CH must carry out follow-up and report on a quarterly basis to the Chief Executive Officer and the Central Board on the Bank's overall sustainability activities, including performance in relation to the sustainability goals that have been adopted. The Bank also follows up and reports on performance in the sustainability area within the framework of the Annual and Sustainability Report. This reporting is carried out in accordance with established standards and principles for sustainability reporting. Handelsbanken's Sustainability Report is examined by the external auditors.