3.1 Key ESG topics for our stakeholders

Our approach to identify key ESG topics for our stakeholders

Our approach to our ESG materiality assessment is to conduct a 'full refresh' of our ESG topics every three years through engaging with our key stakeholder groups. During 2023, following a full refresh in 2021, we reviewed our key topics through consideration of peer reviews, internal megatrends analysis, sustainability frameworks, industry ESG developments, and insight sessions with external experts.

The table below includes our key ESG topics which are underpinned by robust risk management, business ethics and corporate governance. Our approach to consider a broad range of ESG topics guides our thinking and decision-making, ensuring we remain focused on the right issues and build long-term value in our business. We'll continue to engage with our stakeholders to re-evaluate our key ESG topics regularly.

Our progress against each of the key ESG topics identified varies, as reflected in the related disclosures. In addition to the topics listed below, we have identified emerging topics which we will continue to work on, and further develop our ability to measure and deliver against our stakeholder expectations. These include nature and biodiversity, social impacts of lending, and artificial intelligence and ethical use of data.

Our key ESG topics

Key ESG

material to our stakeholders are identified by this icon throughout this report



Investors

Customers

Suppliers

Colleagues

Regulators

| Dimension/lens | Key ESG topics | Relevance for stakeholders | Reference to ESG Disclosures Report pages and other disclosures | Refer to page(s) |
|----------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|---|------------------|
| Human Capital | Diversity, equity and inclusion | | Diversity, equity and inclusion | 42 to 43 |
| | Colleague learning, wellbeing and fair reward | 26 | Championing our colleagues' potential | 38 to 40 |
| | | | Performance management, fair reward and engagement | 41 |
| | | | Supporting colleague wellbeing | 44 |
| Social Capital | Good customer outcomes | | Fair products and responsible marketing | 25 to 26 |
| | | 200 | Customers in vulnerable situations | 27 |
| | | | Keeping our customers and their information safe ⁽¹⁾ | 33 to 34 |
| | | | Financial crime | 54 |
| | Financial Inclusion through enterprise and financial capability | 20 <u>88</u> | Building financial capability and wellbeing | 13 to 16 |
| | | | Supporting financial inclusion | 17 |
| | | | Supporting enterprise | 18 to 20 |
| | Human rights and modern slavery | S [®] S [®] € | Human rights | 57 |
| Business Model and Innovation | Delivering products and services powered by | | An accessible bank by design | 28 to 29 |
| | innovation, digitalisation and accessibility | | Innovation and digitalisation | 30 to 32 |
| | Creating a responsible supply chain | | Engaging our suppliers | 45 |
| | Climate action and resilience | | Read our Climate-related Disclosures Report | Full report |

⁽¹⁾ Keeping our customers and their information safe encompasses sub-topics of Data protection; and Safeguarding customer privacy.