

## **Media Release**

# Charter Hall accelerates net zero and is recognised for global leadership in sustainable development

18 October 2022

Charter Hall Group (Charter Hall or the Group) is pleased to announce its Charter Hall Prime Office Fund (CPOF) has ranked as a Global Sector Leader in the 2022 Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB) for leadership in integrating environmental, social and governance (ESG) considerations.

This year, 24 Charter Hall funds participated in the GRESB Assessment with 17 of these achieving scores within the top 20% of the GRESB universe. Our unlisted Retail funds are also credited as Regional Sector Leaders for Oceania.

Established in 2009, GRESB is today used by more than 170 institutional investors and is considered to be the largest and leading assessment of the sustainability performance of real estate assets and portfolios. In 2022, more than 1,820 listed and unlisted portfolios participated in the Assessment, representing USD\$6.9 trillion in gross asset value under management across 74 countries.

Charter Hall's performance in ESG benchmarks, including GRESB, is underpinned by our long-term commitment to integrating ESG into our business. This reflects our Group-wide approach to actively partnering with customers to drive mutual success, including environmental and social outcomes, alongside financial.

Charter Hall Managing Director & Group CEO, David Harrison, said, "We are pleased to see our funds perform as global and regional sector leaders with 17 of our funds and partnerships in the top quintile of the GRESB Assessment in 2022, which is exceptional considering the benchmarks' continued growth".

"We have accelerated our commitment to net zero carbon for Scope 1 and 2 emissions from 2030 to 2025. We believe our approach to sustainability will continue to attract and retain the best tenant and investor customers, while making a valuable contribution to improving our communities and the planet.

"Combined, our efforts support a lower cost of operation as well as long-term risk adjusted returns for investors across our portfolios," he said.

This year's performance in GRESB is further evidence of Charter Hall's continued approach to integrating ESG into asset creation and operation, through securing onsite and offsite renewables, transitioning buildings away from fossil fuel and reducing our carbon footprint.

Charter Hall Office CEO, Carmel Hourigan, said "At Charter Hall, we take pride in understanding what our customers need and value to deliver best-in-class, sustainable and future-ready assets."

"Our Office portfolio offers leading green credentials, including designing carbon-ready developments with all electric plant and equipment, demonstrating our commitment to provide stabilised, sustainable assets and low carbon outcomes," she said.

Charter Hall Retail CEO, Ben Ellis, added "We are thrilled to see our listed and unlisted Retail funds increase performance in GRESB for the period. We have partnered with customers to install more than 22.5MW of onsite solar and 6.5MW of operating battery capacity in the portfolio – lowering our operating cost and supporting our goal to achieve net nero by 2025."

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### 2022 Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark

#### Office

**First:** Charter Hall Prime Office Fund - Development Benchmark Report in Australia | Office: Corporate; Regional Sector Leader | Oceania | Office and Global Sector Leader | Office

#### Retail (Australia/New Zealand Retail)

Second: Charter Hall Retail REIT (CQR) – Standing Investments Benchmark Report in Australia and New Zealand | Retail | Listed

**Second:** Charter Hall Prime Retail Fund (CPRF) - Standing Investments Benchmark Report in Australia | Retail: Retail Centres : Shopping Centre | Core; Regional Sector Leader | Oceania | Retail and Regional Non-listed Sector Leader | Oceania | Retail

Third: Charter Hall Retail Partnership (RP1) - Standing Investments Benchmark Report in Australia | Retail: Retail Centres : Shopping Centre | Core; Regional Sector Leader | Oceania | Retail and Regional Non-listed Sector Leader | Oceania | Retail

Earlier this year, Charter Hall ranked 8<sup>th</sup> in the 2022 Asia Pacific Climate Leaders top 200 list (FT/Nikkei/Statista).

#### (ENDS)

#### Charter Hall Group (ASX: CHC)

With over 30 years' experience in property investment and funds management, we're one of Australia's leading fully integrated property groups. We use our property expertise to access, deploy, manage and invest equity across our core sectors – Office, Industrial & Logistics, Retail and Social Infrastructure.

Operating with prudence, we've curated a diverse \$69.1 billion property portfolio of 1,548 high quality properties. With partnership at the heart of our approach, we're creating places that help grow communities; turning them into the best they can be and unlocking hidden value. Taking a long-term view, our \$16.0 billion development pipeline delivers sustainable, technologically enabled projects for our customers.

Charter Hall has also extended its Fund Management capability with a 50% investment in the listed equities Fund Manager Paradice Investment Management (PIM), which invests on behalf of wholesale and retail investors across domestic and global listed equities.

The impacts of what we do are far-reaching. From helping businesses succeed by supporting their evolving workplace needs, to providing investors with attractive returns for a better retirement, we're powered by the drive to go further.

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