

# Delta Side D: Cover for investigation costs related to climate-related financial disclosures

For many companies, environmental, social, and governance issues (ESG), and in particular the risks posed by the climate crisis, are at the very top of their agenda. This focus on climate and environmental-related risks has been heightened by the UK government's introduction of mandatory climate-related financial disclosures for the UK's largest companies and limited liability partnerships.

Inaccuracies in these disclosures may leave such entities and their directors exposed to the risk of regulatory action by the Financial Conduct Authority or other regulatory bodies. While directors may turn to their directors and officers (D&O) insurance when faced with costly investigations, there has been a gap in coverage available for entities.

For qualifying Marsh clients our new and innovative Side D cover, provided by way of endorsement to our Delta D&O product, will address that gap in the context of investigation costs.

# Mandatory TCFD reporting: The risk landscape

So what are the risks? The regulatory landscape for environmental and climate-related risks is changing and the introduction of mandatory Taskforce on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) reporting is a significant part of that change. From April 2022 most large and listed companies in the UK are required to state in their annual report, that their disclosures are consistent with TCFD or to explain why they are not.

The list of in-scope entities includes:

- Many large UK-traded companies.
- Banks and insurers.
- Private companies with over 500 employees and £500 million in turnover.

These disclosures are regarded as critical as they are designed to embed climate change into the governance, strategy, and risk management of a company. They also provide a metric to enable investors and insurers to establish the resilience of an organisation in the face of climate-related risks. However, research by Marsh¹ shows that less than a third of FTSE 100 companies are reporting climate change risk in line with TCFD recommendations . In addition, concern is not limited to the disclosures themselves as inaccurate reporting may also leave companies vulnerable to accusations of misleading investors or greenwashing — making environmental claims that are false, misleading, or exaggerated. It is, therefore, important that in-scope entities comply with these TCFD obligations and that their reporting is accurate and in line with their statutory obligations.

### Delta — The new Side D

The imposition of mandatory TCFD reporting will undoubtedly pose challenges for some organisations. Our new Side D product is specifically designed to provide investigations costs coverage arising from a climate disclosure-related investigation.

Key features and benefits include:

- Use of Marsh's ESG Risk Rating and another appropriate tool to assess an organisation's ESG risk rating and eligibility for cover.
- Investigation costs coverage for climate-related financial disclosures, subject to a sublimit.
- Broad coverage, including TCFD and other climate-related disclosures.
- Wide definition of investigation costs to include the costs responding to, attending, or being represented at a climate disclosure investigation.

Access to cover will be dependent upon an organisation's ESG score and conditions may apply.

## Why Marsh?

Marsh is uniquely positioned to guide companies through broad, complex, and ever-changing ESG-related risks. The colleagues in our Financial and Professional (FINPRO) Practice have diverse backgrounds — in finance, legal, risk, and other functions, and experience working across several industries — which enable them to deliver innovative risk and insurance solutions to our clients. As shareholders, regulators, and society increasingly focus on ESG-related matters, we can help risk professionals and senior leaders better navigate those risks. We can offer deep subject matter expertise, insurance market knowledge and advocacy, and creative thinking to manage ESG risks from a position of strength.

Marsh's Climate and Sustainability team combines global insights with local intelligence to help companies manage the risks of a sustainable transformation and realize opportunities, by focusing on the key issues they are exposed to now and tomorrow. We work with Marsh clients to measure, monitor, and manage the physical, transition, and reputational risks associated with a more sustainable future. Marsh can support your TCFD reporting, and we can help you to articulate your climate and sustainability-related undertakings and commitments to align the needs and risks of your business with both advisory and insurance solutions.

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