Implementing a new technique developed by Skanska to renew roads with less carbon emissions. By using a plant-based oil that enables the reuse of up to 80 percent of used asphalt pavement, this circular approach minimizes the need for new petroleum-based binder while maintaining road safety and quality. Together with using renewable fuels to power the asphalt plants, these methods reduce carbon emissions by up to 75 percent.

Collaborating with the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC), the organization behind the international LEED green building rating system, to develop a digital platform called the Market Insight Tool. This tool harnesses USGBC’s database of LEED projects to provide property owners with insights on whether a green investment decision could make a building project environmentally future-proof, or be a risk to their long-term investment. Skanska is piloting this tool, and with the USGBC plan to make it openly available in fall 2019.

Information on shares
In order to ensure allotment of shares to the participants in Skanska’s employee ownership programs, the 2018 Annual General Meeting authorized the Board to repurchase shares in own custody. According to this decision the company may buy a maximum of 3,000,000 Series B shares to ensure allotment of shares to participants in Seop 4. During the year, Skanska repurchased a total of 435,000 shares at an average price of SEK 165.71. The average price of all repurchased shares is SEK 137.54. The quota value of the repurchased shares is SEK 3.00 per share, totaling SEK 1.3 M, and the shares represent 0.1 percent of the total share capital. The cost of acquiring these shares amounted to SEK 72 M. During the year 1,400,394 shares were allotted to the employees participating in the employee ownership program. The quota value of the repurchased shares is SEK 3.00 per share, totaling SEK 4.2 M, and the shares represent 0.3 percent of the total share capital. The number of shares in own custody held as of December 31, 2018 amounted to 10,224,634. The quota value of these shares is SEK 3.00 per share, totaling SEK 30.7 M, and the shares represent 2.4 percent of the total share capital. The cost of acquiring the shares amounted to SEK 1.4 billion.

Proposed dividend
The Board proposes a regular dividend of SEK 6.00 (8.25) per share. The proposal is equivalent to a regular dividend totaling SEK 2,458 M (3,373). The Board proposes April 1, 2019 as the record date for the dividend. No dividend is paid for the Parent Company’s holding of Series B treasury shares. The total dividend amount may change by the record date, depending on repurchases of shares and the transfer of shares to participants in long-term employee ownership programs.

The Board’s justification for its proposed dividend
The nature and scale of Skanska’s operations are described in the Articles of Association and this Annual Report. The operations carried out within the Group do not pose any risks beyond those that occur or can be assumed to occur in the industry, or the risks that are otherwise associated with conducting business activities.

The Group’s dependence on the general economic situation does not deviate from what is otherwise the case in the industry. The Group’s equity/assets ratio amounts to 25.2 percent (24.8). The proposed dividend does not jeopardize the investments that are considered necessary or investments to support the Group’s continued development. The Group’s financial position does not give rise to any conclusion other than that the Group can continue to develop its operations and that the company can be expected to meet its short-term and long-term obligations.

With reference to the above and what has otherwise come to the Board’s attention, the Board has concluded that the dividend is justified based on what is required in terms of the size of the company’s and the Group’s equity and the Group’s consolidation requirements, liquidity and position in general, based on the nature and scale of the Group’s operations. Future profits are expected to cover both the growth of business operations and the growth of the regular dividend.