

Policy

Sustainability

Our Philosophy

Within Scott White and Hookins, we endeavour to practice what we preach and continually seek to find new ways of minimising our own impact on the environment.

We also strive to ensure that sustainability is always at the forefront of our advice and design solutions, encouraging our clients to adopt energy efficient solutions.

We are striving to be Energy efficient. Our aim is to continually reduce our power consumption. Our staff are reminded of the need to turn off lights, photocopiers, printers and computers when not in use. We are continually striving to become more energy efficient, with all our computers using LCD monitors and energy efficient lighting.

We reduce Congestion. Green travel plans for our offices are being prepared to and monitor how our staff travel to work. Walking, cycling and use of public transport is encouraged. Our replacement company vehicles have reduced CO₂, emissions. We endeavour to make business journeys by train were feasible.

We manage our office waste by recycling as much paper, cardboard, bottles etc. We are reducing our usage of paper by use of email and digital means to transfer information between our offices, clients and business colleagues. We use recycled envelopes and letterheads, and scrap paper as notepads and as a result of these initiatives we now purchase less paper.

Many of our services are geared towards helping clients to monitor their sustainability performance.

Sustainable Design Solutions

We have engineered many solutions such as green roofs to reduce roof rain water run; grey water systems to collect rainwater run off for re-use to reduce mains water usage and Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SUDS) to replicate natural surface water drainage. Where possible we specify recycled construction materials, and low environmental impact materials by using local sources and sustainable managed sources, as well as site topography to engineer new levels to minimise excavation and offsite disposal.

Environmental efficiency

Developers and designers are encouraged to benchmark the environmental efficiency of a project. We believe that BREEAM assessments will become the standard tool for these. Therefore Scott White and Hookins have trained assessors capable of undertaking all classification of assessments, and are providing advice to our Clients to achieve the highest rating for their developments.

Carbon emissions

Buildings are major consumers of energy and European Commission research has indicated that by improving energy efficiency carbon emissions from buildings could be reduced by 22%. Through SWH Approved Inspectors we are providing advice and guidance to our Clients about compliance and improvement to the relevant standards.

Green travel options

We undertake traffic studies, assessment of existing public transport, pedestrian and cycle routes and compare this with current and proposed site usage for both new and existing sites. We develop green travel plans to promote flexible working and travel to demonstrate acceptable levels of traffic.

Risk management

Increased risk of flooding is a concern for planning authorities and the community. We prepare flood risk assessments as part of planning applications for clients, which accord with Planning Policy Statement 25 (PPS25).

Contamination issues

To re-engineer brown field sites; we analyse the potential for existing contamination, managing soil investigation, contamination testing and clear up procedures, liaising with the Environment Agency and Environmental Health.



Richard Hemming

Partner responsible for Sustainability

1st August 2011

Date of last Review
of this Statement

31st July 2012

Date of next Review
of this Statement