

Sustainability Policy



WCS Group is committed to ethical, fair-minded and responsible corporate, social and environmental outcomes that are sustainable. A separate policy statement is available for environmental policy.

Recycling – in the context of sustainability

The company has adopted the 3R's principle (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle) to help it achieve corporate targets. Recycling is important but the company is moving towards a paperless office and operating practice wherever possible which is designed not only to cut material use, it will reduce waste and the amount of material the company needs to recycle over time.

Example:

- Launch and introduction of Digital Remote Monitoring – will reduce the amount of paper in respect of site performance. Digital record keeping is sustainable, reduces paper use, demand on trees and waste paper.
- Spent or disposed of documents are placed in secure consoles for on-site or off-site shredding and all shredded paper is recycled.

Energy management

We are constantly striving to reduce energy consumption throughout our sites and head office.

Green sites

Wherever possible, we strive to make our sites as green as possible – not only does this help reduce CO₂ emissions, but it also reduces our initial waste and therefore operating costs and land-fill.

- Staff are encouraged to apply eco-friendly practices (switching off lights and equipment not in use)
- Employees are provided with a document management policy (print only what they need / are using. Print on both sides if possible. Print in mono if possible. All paper is deposited in to secure recycling bins for shredding and recycling in the UK
- Printer ink cartridges are collected from our sites and sent for re-fill and re-sale

Transport management

We encourage the leasing of fuel-efficient company vehicles – most have Euro 5 engines which help reduce CO₂ and Nitrogen Oxide emissions. Staff are incentivised to select fuel-efficient vehicles. All company vehicles are fitted with a 'Tracker System' to log and monitor driver behaviour and fuel economy. Car sharing is encouraged where possible and staff are provided with a manual which reminds them how they can optimise fuel economy when driving.

Carbon CO₂ footprint

The company sources local suppliers and partners wherever possible who will help reduce overall operating impact.

General sustainability principles

The company is a progressive and forward-thinking organisation – not afraid to embrace and introduce new technology and working practices to help reduce environmental impact and enable better sustainable operating outcomes for ourselves and customers. Every scheme has particular merits but the underlining principles that are important to us include and are not limited to;

- Energy efficiency – use products and services that require less energy
- Quality and reliability – longer-lasting, better-performing products will reduce renewal and replacement activity and related cost
- Design for reuse and recycling (products, processes and we should also consider the 'afterlife'.

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- Design impact measures – for total earth footprint and asset lifecycle
- Sustainable standards – utilise all relevant and attainable standards to make products and services as reliable and future proof as possible
- Renewability – materials should be local / best for purpose and sustainability and environmentally neutral as far as possible
- Life extension – keep or extend the natural effective service life of plant / assets
- Minimise transport and routing to save time and cost

We have recently introduced an Environmental section into our Environmental manuals which are now available in electronic format. These include;

- Aspects and impact register for sites and head office
- Environmental guidance as produced by the Environment Agency
- Schedule of environmental legislation affecting the construction industry
- Pollution prevention
- Waste management control and guidance
- Environmental auditing
- Environmental emergency plan

Contractors and customers are reminded of sustainable choices in respect of materials and process selection and we strive to be open, honest and encourage wherever possible, appropriate, sustainable solutions that are fit for purpose.



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