

# Environmental policy 2021-2022

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Ownership	Sustainability Manager
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As architects and designers we are aware that we have a responsibility in terms of the environmental impacts of the buildings we design, as well as our business operations.

We recognise the climate and biodiversity emergencies and believe that our activities should have a positive effect on the environment and society. To this end we commit to protecting the environment, including the prevention of pollution.

Our activities must respect planetary boundaries and the ecological ceiling whilst ensuring a just social foundation for all. We seek to achieve positive outcomes for our clients and business partners, the community, and our employees.

We embrace the UN Sustainable Development Goals and are continually working to increase our understanding and position in a truly sustainable world.

We are committed to halving the emissions of our operations, including business travel, by 2030 and meeting net zero by 2040. We are complementing our emissions reduction with verified offsets and investment in UK woodland creation.

We have committed to the RIBA 2030 climate challenge to target ambitious but achievable embodied carbon, operational energy and water consumption targets for our most significant projects.

We measure and monitor our impacts and are committed to continual improvement.



Within our architectural services we will seek to:

- + Raise Awareness of the climate and biodiversity emergencies and the urgent need for action amongst our clients and supply chains.
- + Change Fast. Advocate for faster change in our industry towards regenerative design practices and a higher Governmental funding priority to support this.
- + New Goals. Establish climate and biodiversity mitigation principles as the key measure of our industry's success: demonstrated through awards, prizes and listings.
- + Share Knowledge and research to that end on an open source basis.
- + Evaluate Projects against the aspiration to contribute positively to mitigating climate breakdown and encourage our clients to adopt this approach.
- + Upgrade existing buildings for extended use as a more carbon efficient alternative to demolition and new build whenever there is a viable choice.
- + Whole Life. Include life cycle costing, whole life carbon modelling and post occupancy evaluation as part of our basic scope of work, to reduce both embodied and operational resource use.
- + Regenerative Design. Adopt more regenerative design principles, with the aim of designing projects that go beyond the standard of net zero carbon in use.
- + Collaborate & reduce. Collaborate with engineers, contractors and clients to further reduce construction waste.
- + Low Carbon. Accelerate the shift to low embodied carbon materials in all our work.
- + Minimise Waste. Minimise wasteful use of resources in projects, both in quantum and in detail.
- + Climate Justice. Support those who are working for climate justice and strive to ensure equity and an improved quality of life for all.

Within our business operations we aim to:

- + Best practice environmental management. Integrate recognised environmental management best practice into our business operations.
- + Measure & monitor. Audit and review environmental performance and the effectiveness of the environmental management system.
- + Continual improvement. We will seek to continually improve and further reduce our environmental impacts.
- + Comply with legislation. Fully comply with all relevant legislative and statutory environmental requirements placed upon us, whilst at all times striving to meet and exceed industry best practice
- + Reduce energy consumption by improving the efficiency of our office and our equipment usage.
- + Reduce transport impacts of our business travel through the use of technology, public transport, walking, cycling and car sharing.
- + Minimise Waste. Minimise the use of natural resources and improve the efficiency of their use in our business operations according to the principles of reduction, re-use and recycling.
- + Reduce paper consumption by moving towards a paperless office.
- + Reducing waste and increasing the recycling of paper, computers, cardboard, plastics, cans, glass wherever practicable. Ensuring waste is disposed of in a proper manner using registered carriers.
- + Collaborate. Ensure our suppliers and contractors are aware of our environmental policy and work with them to ensure environmental criteria are taken into account in the procurement of goods and services, selecting wherever practical, those which are less damaging to the environment.

- + Share knowledge. Provide training and encouragement to our employees to develop environmentally responsible behaviour and awareness and enlist their support in improving the company's performance

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A Rainford'.

Signed: Andrew Rainford (Managing Director)

Date: 25<sup>th</sup> April 2022



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