

# Environmental Sustainability Scope and Policy

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**Issued February 2023**

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The scope of our business has been defined as: the provision of planning and development and related services inclusive of economics, environmental assessment, various design-based services, heritage and associated services to a wide range of clients, mainly in the UK.

Lichfields is the pre-eminent planning and development consultancy in the UK. Our specialists deliver insight, innovation and advice to create great places for future generations.

We are an office-based organisation. Our work includes visits to clients' premises and various sites where we provide town planning and related advice. We are not responsible for the design or management of construction activities. The operation of our business involves some impacts on the environment. We are committed to minimising these impacts within the context of maintaining an economically viable business.

We are ISO 14001 and ISO 9001 certified.

It is imperative that Lichfields is a sustainable ongoing business concern if we are to fully meet the obligations to our staff, local community, and clients. We are committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions before 2050. We have set science-based targets, verified and published by the Science Based Targets initiative. By doing so we are demonstrating our dedication to play our part in keeping the global temperature increase to well below 2 degrees Celsius. These are the emissions permitted which will keep climate change within the limits set by the Paris Agreement.

Lichfields is able to influence our clients both indirectly and directly and, as a result, this can have a positive impact on the environment:

- We have achieved IEMA certification which gives our clients the assurance that the Environmental Impact Assessments we produce meet the standards set by IEMA.
- Our Environmental Impact Assessments report on the anticipated effects on the environment of a proposed development or project and we recommend relevant mitigation measures to reduce or avoid those effects.
- Our work with BREEAM assessors aims to reduce the negative effects of construction and development on the environment.

This Policy sets out our commitment to managing those aspects of our business which affect the environment as well as measures to review our performance.

In order to achieve our objectives, the company maintains an effective and efficient Environmental Management System based upon the requirements of ISO 14001.

In particular, we will:

- 1 Minimise our environmental impact. This is a key component of Our Values to 'play an active role in the business and the local communities within which we work, reflecting our wider social and environmental responsibilities'.
- 2 Maximise the environmental benefits of our business, Lichfields is committed to the following strategic objectives:

- a Compliance with relevant environmental legislation and good practice
  - b Continuous improvement in environmental performance which is monitored on a regular basis
  - c Dissemination of our policy to staff and clients
  - d Being a responsible member of the communities within which our business operates
  - e Where appropriate positively influence our clients towards reducing the impact of their project on the environment.
- 3 Minimise the day to day impact of our business activities upon the environment. The following specific objectives have been identified. We will:
- a Support the use of public transport, cycling and walking both for commuting and travelling when at work to minimise the impact of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions
  - b Continue developing efficient working practices to minimise trips and energy consumption
  - c Seek to recycle materials, minimise waste production, protect the environment and prevent pollution wherever possible
  - d Promote the efficient use of energy and water within all our offices
  - e Reduce paper consumption. (We only purchase recycled paper for our printer/ copiers. Once all stock of company stationery has been used up, all future company stationery will also be printed on recycled paper.)
- 4 This Policy has been formulated following a full audit of our existing practices and how they can be improved. Our Net Zero Carbon Strategy and Environmental Objectives ensure the objectives set out in this policy are met. They also make provision for staff training.
- 5 The Chief Executive is responsible for the implementation of this Policy.
- 6 This Policy is communicated to all employees and is made available to the public on our website.

**On behalf of Lichfields**

**James Fennell**  
**Chief Executive**

**February 2023**