

Sustainability Policy

Ambitions

Sustainability is a complex subject, which is often helpfully subdivided into economic social and environmental issues. This policy primarily addresses environmental issues of which we have more knowledge and control.

MJP works collaboratively with clients, end-users, consultants, planners and contractors, to explore opportunities to achieve sustainable built environments of high architectural merit.

The Policy is a commitment to pursue a bespoke green agenda on each project. The Principles, Assessment Procedures, Reviews and Practice Guidance Notes enable all staff to gain greater understanding of the environment and how we can responsibly contribute to the future.

Principles

Each project's design will seek inspiration from and will document its response to:

- Context – to root the proposals in the social, economic, historical, cultural, microclimatic and biological context of the site.
- Brief - to create healthy, sociable, stimulating, flexible and efficient places that maximise the use of daylight and natural ventilation.
- Materials – to select using life Cycle Analysis principles, where possible, local, robust, benign, renewable, low-embodied energy materials and assemble them using

local skills and technologies. We will avoid specifying materials that have a proven negative effect on biodiversity.

- Energy and water – to conserve their expenditure and to minimise waste and pollution.

Assessment Procedures and Reviews

We will encourage the client and design team to assist us to benchmark and test each project using:

- BREEAM or other appropriate assessment method: the ratings and methodology will be adopted as checklists to inform the design development and where appropriate be independently assessed.
- Energy Consumption Calculations: an appropriate method of assessment will be used to comply with and, where possible, surpass Part L of the Building Regulations – Conservation of Fuel and Power.
- Whole Life Costing: this methodology will be used to help us understand and demonstrate the cost benefits of the project's green agenda.
- Post Occupancy Feedback: occupants should be surveyed and the building monitored to verify the project specific design hypotheses.
- Internal Workstage Reviews: these steer the design development of each project in order to secure high quality design and responsible outcomes.

'Sustainable development seeks to meet the needs and aspirations of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'

'Our Common Future', The Brundtland Report

Internal Management and Support

MJP has recently become fully accredited under ISO 9001:2000 and is currently developing procedures to seek further accreditation under 'green' business practice under ISO 14001:2004 as part of its commitment to continual improvement of its management systems.

Within the office we have a Sustainability Group which provides backup, research and education in sustainable issues and regularly attends Internal Workstage Reviews to provide guidance and support at all stages of projects. A quarter of the Continuing Professional Development programme is allocated to sustainable issues.

MJP will regularly review and improve this Policy and the supporting Practice Guidance Notes.