

# Sustainability Policy Statement



At RCL, we are conscious of treading lightly on the environment - reflected throughout our internal and external practices

Our own systems support ecological sustainability, and we only deal with suppliers and business partners who share that philosophy, we also pride ourselves on having the agility to evolve our environmental initiatives as we discover new and innovative ways to protect the future.

Sourcing products from responsible suppliers is inherent in our businesses. We take pride in the fact that we can deliver projects on time and achieve or better the environmental guidelines for recycling.

RCL are accredited ISO 9001 & ISO 14001 and have held this accreditation since 2008 and 2010 respectively. RCL are committed to quality and an assurance of environmental responsibility throughout the company. We comply with stringently with European and UK environmental standards, and subject ourselves to their own rigorous environmental auditing.

We encourage our clients to embrace the business advantages that come with the adoption of sound environmental practice. We believe that creating high-performance, environmentally responsible and healthy workplaces, simply makes good business sense.

Although it might seem obvious given the current political and social climate, opportunities to improve buildings in this way are, all too often, neglected.

We adopt a proactive approach when carrying out a fit-out ensuring that the potential to harness the latest green building products and strategies, developing solutions which dramatically improve environmental performance, without resorting to energy intensive systems or compromising the comfort of building users.

Our industry recognised expertise puts us in a position to provide elegant and appropriate architectural and interior design solutions whilst delivering the benefits of new technologies and sustainable design and construction to your business.

We can achieve an overall reduction in environmental impact by systematically implementing a series of specific incremental measures to create pleasant and efficient work environments to foster health, productivity and creativity.

We work using the ethos of BREEAM for existing buildings. Used properly, A BREEAM Rating should generate a building that is inspiring to occupy and visit, as well as having a reduced environmental impact both in construction and in use.

Our strategy would be to target credits in areas that are more cost effective. Sections such as Management, Waste, Transport, Water and Land Use and Energy offer opportunities to achieve a very good/excellent BREEAM rating.

Various BREEAM requirements can be written into the Design and Build Specifications to ensure they form a core part of the design, tendering and construction approach. For example, the requirement to achieve 36 Considerate Contractors (Man 2) points, minimise Construction Site Waste (Wst 1) and the Responsible Sourcing of Materials (Mat 5) can all form part of the Contractors Tender requirements.

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The use of low embodied energy materials as described in the BRE Green Guide to Specification and sustainable managed timber for the internal elements can maximise the potential to achieve the innovation credit for both Materials Specification (Mat 1) and Responsible Sourcing of materials (Mat 5). The requirements to use low embodied energy materials and FSC/PEFC timber can be written into the specification from the start to ensure these credits are achieved.

Where appropriate materials, equipment and resources are available locally, we would encourage their use throughout the project. Minimising the carbon footprint of transport during the construction phase is as important as reducing the in-use carbon footprint.

We will work extensively with local trades to minimise transportation requirements and utilise the local skills base. Also ensure that material waste is avoided both during the design and construction stage, exploring opportunities to use locally available materials, products and licensed waste collection and waste disposal sites via our waste management company Waste Management Facilities Ltd

The team has experience of specifying recycled materials and re-using materials to reduce the embodied energy within projects.

It is our experience that Offices and Educational Facilities, share many common key requirements such as lighting, heating, cooling and ventilation. With careful consideration of the layout the designer can take advantage of solar gain, local wind effects and natural day lighting to create a more passive building and reduce its environmental impact.

The first principle of low carbon design is to reduce the energy demand of the building. The overall form of the building, the depth and height of rooms and the size of windows can have a great impact on the eventual energy consumption of the building. There are also clear benefits for the occupants if the building and site are designed to promote the effective use of daylight and a sense of connection to the natural environment.

All of our projects are benchmarked, and project close out meetings are undertaken. In addition, regular workshop meetings are held to review specific areas that we wish to refine or develop (as technologies and legislation changes). These meetings are attended, and input provided by a combination of key design consultants and specialise design and install subcontractors.

In adopting all of the above principles, this has allowed RCL to attain ISO 14001 accreditation which demonstrates our commitment to sustainability when working on our clients projects. In addition to the above, RCL staff are offered as part of their induction training the principles of sustainability and advised that the procedures should be adopted when completing projects in both the procurement, delivery and work stages.

The M&E lifecycle and whole lifecycle are two key elements of any contract for both the client and RCL. Through our expertise and experience, we are well placed to both advise and manage these two key areas on behalf of our clients.

Lifecycle costs are the combined total of capital and revenue costs for an item of plant or equipment throughout its useful life and represent a significant cost to any organisation.

The capital costs of building services systems are a combination of the initial capital costs, discounted replacement costs and any residual value (scrap) of items of equipment or other components of the system. The revenue costs are made up of the energy costs, planned and

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unplanned maintenance costs and the costs associated with consequential losses resulting from plant failure, such as loss of occupant productivity or production plant downtime.

Established lifecycle costs for particular items therefore have a number of uses and benefits:

- Support design decisions regarding the selection of systems and their components
- Aid decisions as to whether to repair or replace specific plant items at a given point
- Select the most appropriate and cost-effective maintenance regime
- Appraise the effectiveness of a plant or system at the end of its life with a view to future replication of the desirable features, such as 'designing out' maintenance activities, reducing or eradicating unplanned downtime, improving reliability and avoiding excessive maintenance expenditure

Whole lifecycle is based on the evaluation of a number of additional parameters and the process of evaluation should highlight the best commercial, social and environmental solution for a given function over the life of a building, by helping to reduce wasteful processes and inefficiencies in specific aspects of its design, construction, maintenance, and refurbishment.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RE', enclosed within a thin black rectangular border that is slightly tilted.

**Rob East**  
**Technical Director**  
**Date: December 2017**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'PR', written in a cursive style.

**Paul Rolfe**  
**Managing Director**  
**Date: December 2017**