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Version 5.0	Author Tim Hampson
Date: 14 <sup>th</sup> July 2022	Approved Charlotte Hampson

## Revisions

Version 3.0	16/05/2021	Text updated to include Architects Declare.	Tim Hampson
Version 4.0	18/12/2021	Dates updated	Tim Hampson
Version 5.0	14/07/2022	Text updated to include SME Climate Commitment	Gregor Wight

## 1.0 Environmental Policy

Architects Dyer recognises that its operations can have an impact on its employees, clients, the wider community, and the environment. In all our activities, working practices and business relationships we are committed to continual environmental improvement through implementation of this policy.

We are committed to complying with the requirements of environmental legislation and approved codes of practice, including those embodied in ISO 14001 environmental standard. We are also committed to minimising the impact of our operations by initiating improvement projects and programmes supported by regular reviewing and monitoring of our environmental impacts.

We are committed to the continual review and improvement of the way we operate and to the communication of this information throughout the office. Our environmental management system (EMS) serves as a framework for annually setting, reviewing, and improving our environmental objectives.

We operate in compliance with all relevant environmental legislation, and we are committed to fulfilling all our compliance obligations and to protecting the environment and mitigating pollution.

## 2.0 Implementation of our Environmental Policy

We will ensure this policy is effectively implemented throughout our operations by:

- Providing sufficient resources to enable effective implementation of the policy.
- Training employees in order that they understand the environmental impacts and requirements of their activities.
- Conducting a regular audit of our environmental impacts and management; including our conformance to legal requirements
- Setting and reviewing of objectives and targets
- Reviewing the policy and its effectiveness on an annual basis by the Directors
- Working with employees, customers, suppliers, neighbours, and other stakeholders to address any environmental issues affecting the company.

## 3.0 Our Designs

Architects Dyer, as a signatory of Architects Declare [www.architectsdeclare.com/](http://www.architectsdeclare.com/), recognises that we are in a Climate Emergency and that our designs and the way that we operate our own offices have a significant impact on the global climate. Of these, our designs present the most significant opportunity to mitigate mankind's detrimental impact on the climate. We recognise the urgent need for transformation within the building industry and built environment to mitigate and adapt for future climate scenarios. It is also important that we 'practice what we preach' and do everything we can to understand, shrink, and balance our own offices' environmental and ecological impacts. Our desire to be at the forefront of sustainable building design means that our designs are the product of an integrated and intensive research and design process.

In committing to this initiative we will seek to:

- Raise awareness of the climate and biodiversity emergencies and the urgent need for action amongst our clients and supply chains.
- Advocate for faster change in our industry towards regenerative design practices and a higher Governmental funding priority to support this.
- 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.

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- Evaluate all new 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.
- 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.
- Adopt more regenerative design principles in our studios, with the aim of designing architecture and urbanism that goes beyond the standard of net zero carbon in use.
- Collaborate with engineers, contractors, and clients to further reduce construction waste.
- Accelerate the shift to low embodied carbon materials in all our work.
- Minimise wasteful use of resources in architecture and urban planning, both in quantum and in detail.

Architects Dyer encourages its clients from the outset to adopt sustainable principles when carrying out their developments. Sustainable development has been defined by the RIBA as “development which raises the quality of life and serves the goal of achieving global equity in the distribution of the Earth’s resources whilst conserving its natural capital and achieving significant and sustained reductions in all forms of pollution especially emissions of greenhouse gases.”

In our pursuit of the principle of sustainable development, our aim is to ensure that every intervention into the built environment not only improves a group or individual’s quality of life through design, but also seeks to eliminate waste, curb pollution and conserve energy and natural resources. We proactively explore the adaptive re-use of existing buildings and believe that re-use does not represent a compromise to the architectural outcome. Annual audits of live projects create a feedback system in relation to these aspirations. The practice aims to consciously promote the use of sustainable materials and products with low embodied carbon, such as responsibly sourced timber, and to diminish the use of materials and products that are proven to be damaging to the environment.

Sustainability to us is not simply a matter of low energy or green building design. If the greenest building is unpopular, inflexible, or fails to perform, it will not be sustainable. We believe that to achieve true sustainability, we must address all key life cycles within our environmental and ecological design philosophy.

Our aim is to deliver sustainable development through sustainable design, insofar as this is possible within the instructions received from our clients, and through such developments encourage and facilitate lifestyle activity that together with those developments support and enhance the long-term well-being of the global ecosystem and all its inhabitants. Our policy is to be carbon neutral in our operations.

## 4.0 Our Workplace

Our aim is to deliver our services in a manner that minimises detrimental impact on the environment whilst providing a safe, healthy, and engaging workplace for our employees and visitors. Our organisation has signed up to the SME Climate Commitment which commits us to halving our carbon emissions by 2030 and becoming Net Zero by 2050.

In order to achieve this outcome we will:

- Annually, monitor and reduce our known carbon footprint using established methodologies and offset our residual impacts through proven carbon-reducing technologies delivered by third parties.
- Integrate the consideration of environmental concerns and impacts into all our activities.
- Promote environmental awareness amongst all our employees.
- Encourage the efficient use of materials and resources and the reduction of waste through reducing consumption, re-use, and recycling.

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- Purchase recycled, recyclable or refurbished equipment, products, and materials where these alternatives are available, economically viable and suitable.
- Promote the efficient use of energy in the workplace in terms of heating, lighting, and equipment usage.
- Endeavour to reduce water consumption.
- Encourage the use of alternative forms of transport, including cycling, where it is safe and effective to do so.
- Encourage the use of public transport in preference to travel by car/taxi wherever it is possible and effective to do so.
- Endeavour to reduce the use of air travel as far as possible using alternative communication tools such as video conferencing etc.
- Communicate our environmental commitment to clients, customers and the public and encourage them to support it.
- Strive to continually improve our environmental performance and reduce the impact of our activities by periodically reviewing our environmental policy in the light of our current and planned future activities.
- Where required by legislation or where significant health, safety or environmental hazards exists, develop, and maintain appropriate emergency response programmes.



14<sup>th</sup> July 2022

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Signed:  
Director

Date: