

Opus Sustainability Policy

Opus needs to be aware of the impact of all its activities on the environment and on communities. This Policy sets out our approach to managing and mitigating such impacts.

Every project, operation or activity will consider its impact on the environment and communities.

Opus' activities impact on the environment and communities through its:

- **direct and indirect use of non-renewable carbon fuels in its buildings and for passenger and freight transport via road and air,**
- **use of harmful materials or chemicals, or high energy consuming processes in the production of the items it purchases,**
- **disposal of waste products,**
- **relationships with local communities where activities take place,**
- **welfare of staff, visitors, volunteers, neighbours and other stakeholders.**

Opus aims to follow the principles of **Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Recycle** in managing its environmental impact.

Use of energy in Opus's premises

Opus seeks to reduce the amount of energy used within its premises. Opus' largest energy stream is electricity used for lighting and computers. Opus encourages staff participation with simple measures, such as switching lights and equipment off when not needed, that can have significant impact on energy use. Energy saving options are considered for all equipment purchases.

Transport

Opus has to manage the impact of business and commuter travel when considering road transport. By restricting car travel to necessity trips only and using alternatives such as video/telephone conferencing or public transport (bus/train) Opus can make savings in CO₂ emissions and money.

Use of materials

Opus will, where practical, investigate the materials and processes used to manufacture products. Where uses of scarce/non-renewable raw materials, harmful materials or high-energy consuming processes are evident they will refrain from purchasing those products wherever possible. If no cost effective alternatives can be found the **Reduce, Reuse, Repair, Recycle** principles will be used. Materials to be avoided include timber from non-managed forests, asbestos, VOCs and PVC.

Disposal of waste

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Opus will encourage the ***Reuse & Repair*** of products to avoid early disposal. Opus will encourage the segregation of waste and its disposal via recycling processes.

Relationships with local communities

Opus will endeavour to foster good relationships with local communities wherever it operates. This may include using local labour and materials. Opus will avoid causing nuisance to its neighbours by for example noise, traffic or pollution. Opus will encourage communication between staff and local communities.

Welfare

Opus will be a caring and responsible employer, host and neighbour. Opus cares for the welfare of staff, visitors, volunteers, neighbours and other stakeholders by complying with its policies on health & safety, employment conditions and diversity.