

CIBSE MEMBERS AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

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1. Introduction

This document provides guidance for members of CIBSE wishing to act on CIBSE's sustainable development policy. There is also a separate strategy document for headquarters staff and the headquarters building.

CIBSE Definition of Sustainability

For the purposes of this document CIBSE has built upon the government definition of sustainability as follows:

'Sustainability means meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. This means meeting three objectives at the same time:

- *social progress which recognises the needs of everyone*
- *economic progress which recognises effective protection of the environment*
- *environmental progress which recognises prudent use of natural resources*

2. Commitment Statement

CIBSE recognises that a majority of 'climate changing carbon emissions' arise from buildings and in particular from their building engineering services systems.

CIBSE accepts the challenge to take action over the mitigation of and adaptation to climate change relating to building services.

CIBSE commits to taking every opportunity to encourage its members to minimise the carbon emissions of future buildings and the vast existing building stock.

CIBSE recognises its responsibility to minimise the potential for causing harm to the environment and strives to sustain and improve both the natural and built environment.

CIBSE is committed to achieving continuous improvement in the impact of its environmental objectives by working in partnership with other organisations that have similar environmental policies.

Implementation of the sustainable development policy will be through a set of appropriate environmental objectives and associated targets, and by undertaking regular reviews of progress.

Whilst actively pursuing sustainable development it is accepted that energy efficiency measures must demonstrate that they are cost effective and maintain appropriate standards. To meet these aims the Institution commits to:

- support the Government's energy policy in promoting efficiency measures and the achievement of the UK's carbon emissions reduction targets.
- encourage the design, installation and operation of buildings to minimise energy consumption.
- encourage integration of building design, specification and operation.
- advise owners/occupiers of new and existing buildings on methods for reducing energy consumption.
- support research into the development of energy efficient systems and equipment.

3. What CIBSE Members can do

The Institution promotes the design, installation and operation of those building engineering services systems which minimise pollution or the consumption of energy. To this end, CIBSE's main objectives are:

- to mitigate the demands placed on the world's reserves of fuels.
- to reduce the consumption of fuels, in order to reduce pollution.
- to promote the use of renewable and sustainable energy sources and passive design solutions.
- to specify materials and equipment having consideration for life-cycle and disposal.

Under the Code of Conduct CIBSE members are required to "Have due regard to environmental issues in carrying out their professional duties".

CIBSE expects its members to:

- Take environmental factors into account during the design, installation and operation process, in order to minimise environmental impacts and to enhance the built and natural environments.
- Re-use and recycle materials wherever practicable and to dispose of any waste according to the best practicable environmental option
- Ensure that all our stakeholders understand the implications of the Institution's Sustainability Policy and to encourage them to adopt similar standards.
- Encourage members to manage all construction sites so as to minimise the risk of pollution and contamination.
- Move to carbon 60 in their own organisations and their clients buildings
- Participate in the review of environmental issues, both generally and within the building services sector, and to ensure that this guidance incorporates new ideas, technology, standards and legislation as appropriate.

4. About CIBSE

CIBSE is a professional body with more than 17,000 members world-wide working in both the non-domestic and domestic sectors, with three main functions:

- Assessing the competency of building services professionals - designatory letters awarded by the Institution are hard won, and recognise levels of competency and a commitment to good Professional Practice and Continuing Professional Development.
- Influencing the culture of the building services professionals, and through them informing and influencing others in the construction team including clients.
- Undertaking a series of 'learned society' activities – to share knowledge through events and networking; and to provide a robust framework of good practice guidance and information.

The Institution is a charity whose role, set out in its Charter, is to 'promote the science, art, and practice of building services'. Members of the Institution have contributed to:

- Provision of healthy, comfortable buildings
- Creation of productive workplaces
- Sustainability & Climate Change mitigation
- Industry improvement
- Education, training, and Continuing Professional Development (CPD)
- Health and Safety

Information on CIBSE, its policies and activities, is made widely and publicly available on the Institution's website at www.cibse.org.

5. Feedback

CIBSE will review our first stand-alone sustainability policy, objectives and targets on a regular basis and would greatly welcome and appreciate comments. CIBSE will aim to update its Sustainable Development Policy yearly together with its Annual Report as part of its regular improvement strategy. If you would like to send us your views, or perhaps offer suggestions on what we could consider in the future, please contact:

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