



LHC Sustainability Policy and Action Plan

LHC sustainability values and ethos

LHC:

- accepts that sustainability requires “development that meets the need of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”. (*Our Common Future - Brundtland Commission*),
- encourages LHC Suppliers to provide a credible sustainable platform of products and services upon which LHC Members can draw in order to fulfil the requirements of their sustainable procurement policies,
- encourages LHC Suppliers to set robust targets and maintain their own sustainability policies and action plans in support of global sustainability,
- recognises that LHC Operations Group is required to set robust targets and maintain its own sustainability policy and action plan in support of global sustainability and
- encourages LHC Members to set robust targets and achieve, maintain and review those targets in pursuance of their sustainable procurement policies and action plans.

LHC has therefore developed the following Sustainability Policies and Action Plans, which will involve all LHC Companies and LHC Operations Group in the development and improvement of their policies to support the sustainable procurement policies and action plans of LHC Members.

LHC Sustainability Policy

All LHC Companies shall have in place a sustainability policy which includes the following in respect of their LHC arrangements and LHC projects procured under those arrangements:

1. Environmental

a. Environmental management

LHC Companies shall establish and maintain an effective Environmental Management System in accordance with BS EN ISO 14001

b. Sustainable sourcing of materials

Where certificated schemes are available, LHC Companies shall have in place procedures towards obtaining full accreditation for sustainable sourcing.

Organisations that will be considered as providing such accreditation or providing a credible sustainable sourcing policy if signed up to are:

- PEFC - Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification schemes
- SFI – Sustainable Forestry Initiative
- FSC – Forest Stewardship Council
- BM TRADA Chain of Custody
- CAESER – Corporate Assessment of Environmental, Social and Economic Responsibility
- One Planet Products Listing
- Approved bona fide organisations that may be added to this list from time to time

Where accredited schemes are not available, LHC Companies shall have in place and maintain policies that address:

- the responsible sourcing and managing of raw and recycled material (PVC-U, Aluminium, etc..)
- the responsible sourcing of office stationery, materials and products
- accuracy of materials ordering to reduce waste
- recycling of existing removed materials
- recycling of production waste
- consideration of alternative construction methods to eliminate unsustainable material usage

c. Low Carbon Impact Products and Services

LHC supplier companies shall have in place and maintain policies that address the development and continual improvement of products that offer potential for carbon and energy reduction in use by one or more of the following:

- developing products with increased levels of insulation that contribute to the achievement of Code 3 and 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes,
- using UKAS approved recognized schemes to independently verify and publish insulation levels and energy ratings of offered products
- developing the use of new materials and technologies to achieve carbon impact reductions
- working with suppliers to support the development of low carbon impact components
- offering low energy appliances and/or partnering with appliance manufacturers who offer certified low energy efficient products

LHC contractor or installation companies shall have in place and maintain policies that pro-actively promote the use of low energy and carbon impact products and services by one or more of the following:

- identifying and establishing a low carbon and energy efficient supply chain that meets sustainability requirements without compromising quality, which shall be offered as a first choice to LHC Members
- identifying and using energy efficient and low carbon impact construction and installation practices

d. Carbon Control

LHC Companies shall establish and maintain policies that describe and control their own proposals for future reductions in carbon and energy use and emissions control by one or more of the following:

- in-house and on-site carbon footprint identification and reduction initiatives
- low emissions policy for company vehicle fleet and company cars
- mileage reductions and efficient route planning
- consideration of regional depots to reduce travelling and deliveries
- waste reuse for energy generation and waste heat recycling
- alternative/renewable energy promotion
- supplier involvement strategies for waste and energy reduction.
- staff energy awareness training, involvement and energy audits

e. Water and Waste Management

LHC Companies shall have in place and maintain policies that address:

- reduction in water usage via the use of water efficient appliances and consideration of rainwater harvesting and grey water recycling where appropriate
- management of their legal obligations under the Site Waste Management Plans Regulations (2008), including packaging reduction, recycling, segregation and salvage
- waste reduction by efficient project planning and management of materials

2. Social

a. Social inclusion

LHC Companies shall have in place and maintain policies that address the following twin strands of Social Inclusion:

- Employment Strategy
 - development of a committed, skilled and adaptable workforce
 - support for personal development and training in customer care, construction, shop floor and business skills
 - non-business support for workforce
 - provision of a safe and healthy work environment
 - accreditation or working towards BS ISO 18001 (Occupational Health and Safety) registration
 - accreditation or working towards Investors In People registration
- Local issues
 - use of local labour, with provision of training
 - support of local economies including local supply chains, SMEs, Long-term Partnerships and/or project based Strategic Partnerships
 - local involvement and support for schools, action trusts and community initiatives

b. Equality and Diversity

LHC Companies shall have in place and maintain policies that address inequalities and barriers faced by employees, customers and residents in under-represented groups, by valuing, learning and benefiting from diverse cultures in their staff and society as follows:

- **Equal Opportunities**
No employee, prospective employee, customer or resident will receive less favourable treatment or be disadvantaged by any circumstances, conditions or requirements that cannot be justified.
- **Diversity**
Recognising, respecting and valuing the differences all employees, customers and residents bring to work and society.

3. Economic

a. Value for money solutions for LHC Members

In pursuance of existing, as well as future sustainability, LHC Companies shall develop and offer value for money solutions that address, where applicable for each offered product or service:

- Life cycle analysis
- Cost in use analysis
- Whole life cost analysis
- The proactive development of innovative solutions

LHC Sustainability Action Plan

By 1 January 2009, all LHC Companies shall provide a programme that confirms which aspects of the above sustainability policy they have in place, the dates by which they intend developing other aspects of the above policy and a statement of those aspects that are not applicable to their undertakings.

In order to support the recommendations of the Sustainable Procurement Task Force in „Procuring the Future - Sustainable Procurement National Action Plan“, all LHC Companies shall have in place or shall develop applicable effective policies as described above by 1 December 2009.

Where applicable LHC Companies shall identify timed targets for carbon, energy, water and emissions reductions in their Sustainability Policy and Action Plan.