



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM



Smiths Bletchington is a long established independent family run company serving the construction and allied industries in Oxfordshire and the surrounding counties.

Our core business is the production, marketing and distribution of primary and recycled aggregates and is supported by inert waste management, plant hire and construction activities. We are responsible for the restoration and management of our former quarried sites to a beneficial after use; for nature conservation, agriculture or to lakes as a public amenity or for fishing.

We recognise that what we create today will be inherited by the next generation of shareholders and are determined to pass on a profitable company committed to its employees and to high standards of environmental performance.

WE SHALL AIM TO:

- Establish an Environmental Management System (EMS) which clearly defines responsibilities for implementing our environmental policy and monitoring environmental matters
- Ensure that the EMS policy is understood and implemented throughout the company and that all employees, including top management, are aware of their responsibilities to the EMS System and have adequate authority, training and resources to fulfil them.
- Ensure that the effectiveness of the EMS system is regularly reviewed by top management.
- Promote a reduction in the environmental impact of our operations by seeking to continually improve our environmental performance through measuring and monitoring criteria relevant to our adopted objectives and targets.
- Develop opportunities, which arise from our operations, to enhance biodiversity, geodiversity, nature conservation, educational activities and improve public access to the countryside.
- To carry out our sustainable business activities with respect and care for the environment, our neighbours, local communities and other stakeholders.
- Ensure compliance with appropriate environmental legislation, statutory requirements, permits and consents and codes of practice.
- Conserve resources by eliminating, reducing, re-using or recycling waste where possible and managing our mineral resources to make the best use of the aggregates extracted.
- To guard against our activities causing pollution and nuisance to our neighbours, ensuring that all risks to the environment are considered as part of the operational and business process.
- Build good relationships with stakeholders and the local communities that neighbour our quarrying operations through dialogue and communication.

- Promote good maintenance and cleaning of all operations.

WE WILL STRIVE TO DEVELOP AND IMPROVE THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

Environmental Management System

We will seek to develop, implement, maintain, audit and review an Environmental Management System to meet the requirements of BSI 14001. We will ensure it clearly defines responsibilities for implementing and monitoring environmental matters. Systems will also be reviewed in response to operational, legislative changes and in light of new knowledge.



Objectives and targets

Where practicable we shall set objectives and targets in line with continual improvement and good business practice. These will be monitored and reviewed to evaluate the effectiveness of this environmental policy.

Environmental performance will be regularly and openly communicated against these criteria.

Leadership and Communication

Top management, through regular communication to all staff, will ensure all employees are not only aware of, but actively promote, an environmentally responsible approach to all aspects of their work.

We shall engage and communicate with our neighbours and local communities to explain our business, listen to concerns, answer questions and to establish a better understanding of our activities.

We are committed to the development and maintenance of an open dialogue culture which will include the communication of this environmental policy to our:

- Employees
- Local community
- Suppliers, Customers, Sub-contractors
- Other Stakeholders.

Pollution Control

We shall establish and maintain effective systems and controls including monitoring and record keeping to prevent pollution of the environment and harm to human health by the careful management of:

- Waste
- Water
- Air
- Noise
- Land

This will include procedures for safe handling, disposal and containment of substances that have the potential to cause pollution.

Natural Environment

We shall work closely with interested parties to enhance and improve the biodiversity and geodiversity of our operational land to provide, where appropriate, new opportunities for nature conservation and geological interest during extraction and following restoration. Where practicable, we support the use of our sites for educational purposes particularly environmental education. We shall maintain rights of way and where possible will provide improved public access.

Energy

We shall look to monitor, manage and reduce our use of energy and to evaluate alternative renewable energy technologies for implementation where they may be practicable.

Transport

Subject to suitability for purpose, low emission vehicles will be operated by

the company including LGV (large good vehicles), light commercial vehicles and company cars.

We will aim to minimise mileage driven by our vehicles as long as customer service is not compromised and chosen routes do not have a negative impact on local communities. We shall evaluate alternative fuel technologies where they may be practicable.

All staff will be encouraged to drive in a fuel efficient and safe manner.

We shall encourage staff who wish to use alternative forms of transport or vehicle share into work.

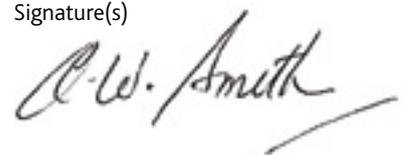
Procurement

We shall, where possible, endeavour to source materials, goods and services locally, from responsible suppliers with an emphasis on recycled, or recyclable or sustainable products. When specifying new vehicles, mobile plant and machinery, consideration will be given to minimising emissions, wastage and pollution. We shall also advise our suppliers and contractors to do likewise.



This Policy has been defined and endorsed at the highest level to ensure that it is appropriate to the nature, scale and environmental impact of Smiths Bletchington's operations.

Signature(s)



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