

ASHDOWN SITE INVESTIGATION LTD

SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

Introduction

Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd is committed to achieving environmental and social sustainability for its business operations. We define sustainability as:-

‘Meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.’

Sustainable development must address environmental, economic and social factors and the interrelationships between them. Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd, by the nature of its work, employs environmentally aware individuals and this is reflected in the company approach to sustainability. As such, Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd is fully committed to ensuring, in so far as is reasonably possible, the ongoing sustainability of plant, labour and materials. The company works on a range of sites including those where vulnerable environmental receptors are present, including sites with sensitive ecological habitats, sites of archaeological importance and sites with sensitive controlled water receptors. As such we are keenly aware that our operations have the potential to cause damage to these receptors and put in place appropriate protective measures on such sites.

Objectives

The key objectives of the sustainability policy are:

1. To ensure that the company complies with all relevant legislation and regulations;
2. To ensure that all environmental risks associated with our business are assessed, managed and controlled;
3. To promote and adopt best practice within the ground investigation sector;
4. To maintain and continue to develop the company in a sustainable manner;
5. To keep company employees informed on matters of the environment;
6. To develop managers and staff by providing training and information on environmental management and sustainability.

Application

This policy applies to all activities undertaken by (or on behalf of) Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd.

Policy Statement

Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd recognises the importance of the role it has to play in the environmental stewardship of all aspects of our business. The company will manage and control its environmental risks in a sustainable manner by complying with relevant legislation and adopting where appropriate best practice. The company will also endeavour to integrate the principles of sustainability into its strategies, policies and procedures.

In accordance with the policy statement the Company will:

a) Control Environmental Risks

Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd will:-

- Continue to meet the requirements of environmental legislation and commit to a process of continual environmental improvement.

b) Promote and Adopt Best Practice

Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd will:-

- Establish an Environmental Management System by end of December 2010; to set targets and indicators, measure environmental performance and report progress annually.

c) Maintain and Develop the Company in a Sustainable Manner

Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd will:-

- Develop a sustainable procurement policy by April 2011 to ensure social, ethical and environmental scrutiny of products and services whilst achieving best value;
- Seek to maximise energy efficiency, use of renewable resources and use of low carbon technology where appropriate and commercially viable;
- Minimise waste generation and facilitate repair, reuse and recycling over disposal of wastes where ever practical; and
- Promote sustainable travel to and from work, for example by continuing the cycle loan facility available to all staff.

d) Communicate with and Inform the Company Employees

Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd will:-

- Review the policy regularly; and
- Report on progress at least annually.

e) Work with External Authorities and Bodies

Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd will:-

- Develop good working relationships with all relevant external authorities;
- Seek to develop links with appropriate environmental bodies and associations; and
- Report any incidents as required.

f) Develop Managers and Staff

Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd will:-

- Continue to provide appropriate training and information to employees.

Key Personnel and Responsibilities

The sustainability policy has full support of the management team.

Whilst all employees and management have a responsibility to ensure that Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd operates in an environmentally and socially sustainable manner the company has appointed the Principal Environmental Consultant, Mr Darren Beesley to be the company Sustainability Coordinator.

The Sustainability Coordinator has responsibility for ensuring ongoing environmental performance, identification of environmental risks, recording and monitoring of impacts and implementing environmental and social sustainability measures on behalf of the company. The coordinator is also responsible for preparing the annual report to the management team.

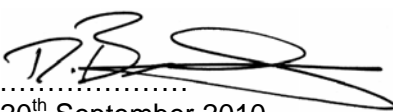
The company to date has put the following measures into place relating to sustainability and progress on these measures will be included in the annual report to management:-

1. Evaluation of efficiency of replacement vehicle options prior to purchase. Efficiency and carbon dioxide emissions are considered in the selection of replacement fleet vehicle where efficient and low emission vehicles are selected.
2. Environmentally aware driving policy to improve fuel efficiency.
3. Environmentally efficient site operations; operations programmed to minimise site visits and movements on site, plant to be turned off when not in use, replacing (as far as possible) exploration pit returns into place of origin, combining monitoring visits to multiple sites to minimise miles traveled by our fleet vehicles.
4. Minimisation of waste stream by seeking increased rates of recycling (above the paper / cardboard, toner and mobile phone schemes already in place) and reductions at source where possible by minimising unnecessary sampling and re-use of appropriate sampling containers where this does not compromise sampling protocols.
5. To further develop the existing approved suppliers list (plant and materials) to enable the use of local suppliers and locally sourced materials wherever possible.

Further information on current progress with sustainability issues is available from the Sustainability Coordinator if required.

Telephone 01273 483119

E-mail: darren.beesley@ashdownsi.co.uk

Signed.....
Dated : 20th September 2010

Darren Beesley
Principal Environmental Consultant
Sustainability Coordinator
Ashdown Site Investigation Ltd