

Sustainability Matters

Introducing the 2019 Sustainability Strategy

Zero Harm (every) Day!

February 2019



In January we prepared our Sustainability Strategy for 2019. This Strategy is copied on the other side of this newsletter and will be displayed on our environment and sustainability information boards.

Defining sustainability and sustainable development

There is no universally agreed definition for sustainability. In environmental terms it involves a 'perfect balance', by *'not being harmful to the environment or depleting natural resources, and thereby supporting a long-term ecological balance'*. The concept of sustainable development was defined by the 1987 Brundtland chaired report, 'Our Common Future', as: *'Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs'*. These definitions have over time been re-interpreted, based on scientific findings, socio-economic and political uncertainties. Five pillars of sustainable development are now regularly defined as: people, planet, prosperity, peace and partnerships. In 2015 the United Nations (UN) General Assembly identified a collection of 17 global Sustainable Development Goals. You may have noticed the coloured boxes at the bottom of recent copies of Sustainability Matters and the Environmental Focus, these are references to particular UN Sustainable Development Goals. The UN goals address global challenges and each goal has a target to be achieved by 2030. Not all the goals are relevant to our project, but these goals do help highlight how our work and courage to care has long term global impacts, as well as the local impacts which are often the focus of our work.

Understanding how we address sustainability within ABP

Many of the environmental, social and economic aspects of sustainability are embedded into our work and every-day behaviours. Our sites are located near ecologically sensitive areas and within regions of archaeological significance. As part of our general way of working we assess, protect, and where possible, enhance these natural, built and historic environments. We also promote resource conservation, energy efficiency and waste minimisation. We support local communities through voluntary work and fund raising. These achievements have been recognised by the recent, exceptional Considerate Constructors Scheme scores at all our Salisbury Plain sites. We also operate an Environmental Management System, now certified to ISO 14001:2015, to manage environmental responsibilities in a systematic manner that contributes to the environmental pillar of sustainability.

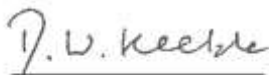
The Ministry of Defence (MOD) has also influenced our strategy towards sustainability. The MOD has its own sustainability strategy, [the Sustainable MOD Strategy 'Act and Evolve' 2015 - 2026](#). This sets priority areas including equipment longevity, personal health and safety, energy security, capital costs, maintenance costs and department reputation. The key objectives of the MOD strategy are energy efficiency, climate resilience and utilities. The MOD also regularly reports its sustainability performance ([Sustainable MOD Report 2017/18](#)). The MOD has a series of sustainability tools including methods for Sustainability Appraisal and DREAM. These can be found in the [MOD Sustainability and Environmental Tools Handbook](#).

In addition, our 2019 strategy considers the sustainability requirements of KBR. KBR has used the Global Reporting Initiative guidelines for sustainability reporting. KBR focuses on Zero Harm 24/7 – Courage to Care which has a clear sustainability theme. A couple of years ago we completed a materiality assessment with stakeholders including our senior leadership team, members of our career development scheme and some of our design teams. This involved the prioritisation of about 50 different sustainability issues. The top five issues selected by our senior leadership team were: safety, leaving a lasting legacy for the community, skills shortage, health and welfare, waste and recycling. Our Sustainability Strategy for 2019 now sets out 10 focus areas, taking into account the environment, our client, parent company leadership and local operational commitments. The Sustainability Strategy recognises the other Zero Harm 24/7 commitments and deliberately focusses on environmental, social and other governance issues.

Sustainability Strategy 2019

Sustainability is a key priority for our business. The focus areas supporting our 2019 strategy are:

- Courage to Care, protecting people and the environment** – Embed *Zero Harm 24/7* into everything we do and apply the precautionary principle to environmental protection and management. Influence the workplace behaviours of all our people and those we work with through our *Keys to Life*, and where necessary, using the *Stop Work Authority* for both safety and the environment; continually raising the bar to achieve the highest standards.
- Planning and design** – Comply with all Town and Country Planning, environmental and other sustainability requirements. Complete the delivery of Defence Related Environmental Assessment (DREAM) requirements in accordance with the programme requirements.
- Risk management** – Assess risks and opportunities associated with environmental aspects and impacts. Monitor effectiveness of compliance measures through our management system to minimise risks from programme delay, legal action and/or damage to customer and parent company reputations. Identify and implement opportunities to encourage sustainability, improve environmental performance and minimise waste.
- Supporting sustainable communities** – Develop links with local stakeholders including the DIO environmental team, charities, conservation and community groups to provide a positive, lasting contribution within the areas local to our work.
- Building a successful business** – Communicate with the workforce to raise the profile of sustainability issues. Deliver training and communications to enhance awareness of relevant sustainability aspects. Promote opportunities for employment of former armed services personnel.
- Enabling low carbon economies** – Develop a low carbon culture by encouraging reductions in direct emissions from energy and transport use and indirect effects from waste and water use. Report waste generation and carbon dioxide emissions.
- Responsible and considerate approach** – Active participation in the Considerate Constructors Scheme (CCS). Identify and encourage innovations and best practice which may help our teams achieve higher CCS scores.
- Providing better prospects for our people** – Promote staff participation in the delivery of sustainability initiatives. Recognise individual and team environmental efforts and achievements and align these with parent company requirements.
- Leading the way in our sector** – Establish close working relationships with contractors by working towards shared sustainability goals. Maintain supply chain reporting against key performance indicators and enhance engagement through monitoring, sharing best practice and recognition of successes.
- Environmental and sustainability recognition** – Raise Aspire Defence Capital Works' profile through communications to key stakeholders, other external parties and entries to agreed environmental and sustainability award schemes.



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Paul Dempster
ADCW Managing Director

SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2019

MAKE A DATE: KBR ZERO HARM DAY will be on Wednesday 20th February. A perfect day to celebrate courage to care, including environmental sustainability, in the workplace and at home with our families.



More information about the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals can be found at:
<https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/?menu=1300>

