



Environmental policy statement

At Cotswold Natural Stone, we manage our extraction operations to ensure that they are wherever possible, the least damaging to the environment. We comply with all the relevant environmental legislation, and adopt responsible standards as the basis of our sustainable environmental policy which is an integral part of our strategy for future business.

OUR AIMS

- To carry out our business activities with respect and care for the environment, our neighbours and local communities.
- We shall plan and manage our environmental impacts and actively seek to develop opportunities to positively protect and enhance the environment.
- Practice good housekeeping and to comply with appropriate environmental legislation and other requirements at all times.
- Minimise waste and to carry out our activities mitigating pollution and nuisance to our neighbours
- Build good relationships with the local communities that neighbour our quarrying operations.
- To implement plans to restore the quarries to areas of conservation and monitor them to ensure they are providing the correct area for habitat for limestone soils.
- Maintain and raise environmental awareness throughout the company.
- Operate a profitable, long term business and to be good employers.

We will focus on

Waste Management

We shall ensure responsible management of our own wastes, Encouraging reuse and recycling to minimise disposal to landfill .We shall dispose of our wastes in strict compliance with legislation.

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.

Pollution control

We shall establish and maintain systems to avoid pollution of the environment and harm to human health. This will include procedures for safe handling, disposal and containment of substances that have the potential to cause pollution. We will continue to extract stone in the least damaging way by using excavators not blasting or mining.

Local Communities

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

Transport

Subject to suitability for purpose, low emission vehicles will be operated by the company including LGV, 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 routeing doesn't have a negative impact on local communities. We have recently signed up to a routing agreement with Oxfordshire County Council which negates our company vehicles travelling through local villages. 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 and our HGV drivers will be SAFED trained. We shall encourage staff who wish to use alternative forms of transport or vehicle share for journeys to and from their place of work.

Management of water

We shall monitor, review and manage the impacts of our quarrying operations on surface and groundwater resources and have effective measures in place to prevent pollution. Where appropriate we shall conserve and reduce our use of mains water through recycling and use of rainwater harvesting opportunities.

Purchasing

We shall, where possible, endeavour to source materials locally, from responsible suppliers with an emphasis on recycled, or recyclable or sustainable products. When specifying new Lorries, 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.

Communication to the organisation

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

E P Conlon & L J Conlon

Directors