

Environmental Policy

Environmental Sustainability Policy

Introduction

As part of Whitespace's overall Corporate Social Responsibility Strategy, this Environmental Sustainability Policy formalises our commitment to supporting the principles of environmental sustainability and recognises that a sustainable environment is central to our lives and our work.

The aim of our Environmental Sustainability Policy is to:

- implement environmental actions within the company.
- monitor the environmental actions and improvements internally.
- communicate environmental initiatives internally and externally.

Scope

This policy and all associated procedures apply to all Whitespace divisions and employees. We support the idea that if you work within the events and exhibitions industry, you have a duty to work sustainably. Specific employee roles, responsibilities, and expectations are further described within this policy.

Policy

Whitespace respects our relationship with the natural environment and its ecosystems. We acknowledge the adverse impacts that both human activity and the exhibitions industry can impose and take actions to prevent degradation of those natural systems. We have made the decision to improve our every-day business practices to align with environmental sustainability. We believe that investing in higher quality equipment allows us to reduce scrap, waste, and energy consumption, and produce higher quality products. We make a conscious effort to design and develop exhibition stands that do not cause unnecessary waste of materials due to short life, poor design, inefficient construction, and manufacturing processes.

Commitments

Whitespace commits to the following principles and practices:

- Monitoring and managing our environmental performance and working towards targets set to reduce adverse impacts.
- Maintaining our EMS in line with ISO 14001 Standards
- Complying with relevant UK wide and Local environmental policy, practices, regulations and legislation, and industry-specific legislation.
- Committing to the continual improvement of our EMS and adherence to ISO14001 standards
- Reducing the consumption of natural resources in daily operations, including water, paper, and energy.
- Committing to the advanced waste hierarchy of Prevent, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Recover, Dispose

- Maximising the recycling of resources.
- Maintaining 0% waste to landfill targets
- Committing to the principles of preventing pollution to the environment and continual improvement.
- Minimising pollution by taking steps to limit carbon emissions resulting from vehicle and air travel.
- Where possible, using local suppliers and encouraging suppliers to meet high standards of environmental performance.
- Communicating this policy to all employees, contractors, and other stakeholders, as well as making this policy available to the public.
- Reporting on the company's environmental performance in both internal and external communications, where relevant.
- Reviewing this policy annually and measuring targets and performance as part of that review.

Contributions

The Company contributes to environmental sustainability in the following ways:

Operations

- We've appointed an ESG Manager to lead our ESG journey and communicate all new initiatives to staff, internal and external stakeholders.
- Our EMS has been accredited to the ISO 14001 standard which means we have rigorous controls, risks are regularly reviewed and environmental impact monitored.
- Our office and warehouse have been powered by 100% renewable energy sources since 2018.
- We have one of the largest exhibition rental inventories in Europe enabling clients to hire rather than purchase stands from simple pop-up displays to large structural exhibition stands. Rental cuts down on manufacturing and with the average lifespan of Whitespace rental systems of up to 10 years or more, provides for virtually no waste during the product lifespan at the end of which systems are recycled in any event.
- We employ a re-usable modular flooring system.
- It is our policy to consolidate shipping wherever possible, reducing the number of boxes and packaging used.
- We travel by public transport to events, site visits and meetings. We encourage this by offering a season ticket loan and railcard to staff. When this is not possible, we car-share and co-ordinate meetings to minimise the number of journeys required.
- Our secondary glazing in the office has increased the building's EPC grade from 'D' to 'C'

Materials

- We use a modular system made from 75% recycled aluminium. when our rental inventory is damaged beyond refurbishment and repair, these systems are then recycled.
- We print using non solvent, water-based inks
- Our Foamex alternative is made in the UK from at least 30% - 80% recycled material and is 100% recyclable after use. It is manufactured using 100% renewable energy with 0% heavy metals or hazardous chemicals during the manufacturing process. It is then collected by our supplier and recycled in the UK.
- Our acrylic is made with 100% R-MMA
- All our fabric is sourced from a certified carbon neutral manufacturer.
- Our fabric graphics are designed to be reused multiple times

- A percentage of our timber products are FSC approved. FSC is the forest stewardship council, an international, non-governmental organisation dedicated to promoting responsible management of the world's forests.

Waste

As part of our lean production processes, Whitespace also has a commitment to re-using as much of our excess materials as possible, contributing to the conservation of energy and resources, while keeping waste out of landfills.

- 0% of our waste goes to landfill.
- We contribute to local circular networks with any ex rental furniture and white goods, custom or hard to recycle pieces.
- Toner cartridges are recycled via our printing partner and waste ink disposed of according to environmental safety regulations.
- Any unwanted or outdated IT equipment is donated or recycled according to WEEE disposal regulations.
- We have used a small local business to repurpose unwanted client fabrics into tote bags for use on site.

Offsetting

When looking into carbon offsetting schemes in we decided to focus on 'blue carbon'. Our research showed that the planting of mangroves and conservation of wetland areas has a far more effective impact on Co2 absorption than terrestrial forests. Mangroves increase capacity for 5-10x more carbon storage and help protect against coastal erosion and climate change.

Through One Tree Planted, we contributed 1,165 mangrove trees to their Bangladesh 2022 Sundarbans Mangrove Restoration Project. By reforesting this area, this project aims to reduce riverbank erosion, protect livelihoods, and stabilize the overall mangrove ecosystem. As of September 2023, we are now partnered with Evergreen, planting 1500 Mangrove Trees along the coast of Kirepwe Island in Kenya with the support of local farmers, absorbing an estimated total of 450tonnes of Co2e, a link to our "forest" can be found here

Partnerships & Volunteering

We are a member of Isla, an independent events and exhibitions body founded by events professionals and industry leaders focused on the delivery of sustainable events.

We have organised an annual volunteer day or donation when volunteering is not possible with our local wetland reserve, London Wetlands Centre in Barnes SW London. Whitespace has also pledged support for WWT's Wetlands Can! Campaign to restore and create more wetlands areas in the UK.

Awards and Recognition

Our EMS has been audited and ISO 14001 certified since November 2024

We are proud to have won the below awards for our Sustainability Efforts.

- Sustainable Impact – Runner Up - Merton Best Business Awards 2024
- Sustainable Impact – Merton Best Business Awards 2023

- Sustainability Award – ESSA 2022
- Platinum Sustainability Award – World Exhibition Stand Awards 2022

We have also been shortlisted for the following.

- ESG Award – EN Awards 2025
- Sustainable Impact – Merton Best Business Awards 2024
- ESG Award – EN Awards 2024
- Sustainability Award – ESSA 2023
- Sustainability Initiative – AEO Excellence Awards 2023
- ESG Award – EN Awards 2023

Reporting and Communication

On an annual basis each Head of Department (HoD) will meet with the ESG Manager to discuss departmental objectives, setting short- and long-term goals for that calendar year aligning with the overall company objectives.

We have joined the carbon accounting firm Greenly to conduct a Co2 audit of our activities using 2023 as our base year. A full GHG emissions report will be shared with all internal stakeholders.

Regular updates regarding progress will be shared with Internal Stakeholders with reports sent via email and made available on the Whitespace Hub.

Responsibility and Review

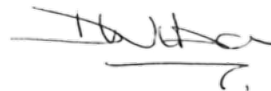
This Environmental Sustainability Policy is the responsibility of the ESG Manager. We expect all Whitespace staff to understand and comply with this policy. Environmental sustainability is at the forefront of our Company's values and therefore we all share responsibility for sustainable development. This policy was last updated April 2026 and will be reviewed April 2027.

Signed



Alya Khalidi
ESG Manager

Signed



Dave Wilson
Managing Director