Sustainability



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Sustainability Policy Statement

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Robert Walters plc and its subsidiaries ("Robert Walters") is fully committed to being a sustainable business and this commitment forms a fundamental part of our wider Corporate Social Responsibility strategy.

Sound sustainable development is also key to Robert Walters' environmental policy and supports our commitment to being a responsible business with a social purpose beyond its immediate boundaries.

This policy helps Robert Walters to:

- Consider the resource impacts of our activities
- Consider the integration of sustainability into the services we offer our clients and candidates
- Consider how we support and participate in the communities in which we operate
- Consider our obligations to secure the well-being of future generations

Our sustainability policy is based upon the following 10 principles:

- 1. Continually reducing carbon emissions in line with our published Carbon Reduction Policy, and fully offset that which cannot be avoided (SDG13).
- 2. Embracing the values of the circular economy, in line with BS8001, by moving away from the 'take-make-dispose' concept and enforcing the six steps of the Waste Hierarchy (SDG15).
- 3. Evaluating the environmental aspects of the business that have a lifecycle perspective, with a preference towards Sustainable Consumption and Production (SDG12).
- 4. Encouraging our waste handlers, both internal and external, towards a 'zero to landfill' aspiration.
- 5. Compliance with applicable legislation and adoption of appropriate codes of practice (SDG16).
- 6. Integrating sustainability concepts and opportunities into our everyday business decisions (SDG7).
- 7. Making key suppliers aware of our Sustainability Policy and encouraging them to adopt sustainable management practices.
- 8. Ensuring that all staff are aware of our Sustainability Policy and embrace its principles.
- 9. Reporting, both internally and externally, on our sustainability initiatives.
- 10. Regularly reviewing this policy as the business evolves, ensuring it continues to be in line with current best practice.

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Our Sustainability Strategy: Practical Steps

To put the ten policy principles into practice, we will strive towards the following actions:

- a) Nominate at least one local representative in each country for sustainability and environmental matters/issues, who can be a first point of contact for sustainability/environmental issues and provide guidance/assistance for using company property, equipment and assets to the maximum efficiency.
- b) Purchase electricity from providers who can guarantee that it comes from renewable or low-carbon sources.
- c) Use collaborative technologies such as video conferencing or teleconferencing wherever possible to reduce business travel.
- d) Encourage greater use of public transport through the implementation of Robert Walters carbon conscious business travel policies.
- e) Reduce the energy consumption of office equipment by investing in energy-efficient equipment.
- f) Minimise our use of paper and other office consumables.
- g) Recycle all possible office waste. Work with cleaning providers to establish the full waste stream availability.
- h) Carefully evaluate the potential benefits of single-use items as well as robust products with built in longevity.
- i) Ensure that timber furniture, or any other timber products, are from well-managed, sustainable sources and are Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified.
- j) Purchase fair-trade and/or eco-certified supplies wherever possible and practical.
- k) Seek to work with local suppliers and support the local economy whenever possible.
- 1) Seek to collaborate with partners who can help develop innovative approaches to sustainability.
- m) Partner with land stewardship organisations to invest in programmes that safeguard biodiversity and support the protection of carbon-rich habitats in key areas of conservation importance.
- n) Liaise with your local facilities team or the Robert Walters head office facilities team for assistance on all practical steps.

David Bower

Chief Financial Officer