



Environmental Policy Update Dec 2023

Foreword

Oakdene Hollins is a boutique sustainability and circular economy consultancy using science to deliver pragmatic recommendations for our clients. We operate an Environmental Management System (EMS) that has been registered to ISO 14001:2015. Our strategic advice is always backed by robust data analysis. Since 1994 we have been working with our clients to deliver value from sustainability. Our core services: Circular Economy, Net-Zero, Value Retention, and Innovation are underpinned by supporting companies, trade associations, governments and more to make progress towards the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In 2022, we began our SBTi journey; we have publicly disclosed our 2021 baseline and will continue to share updates as we work towards our target of becoming Net-Zero by 2040.

Our Environmental Commitments

Working together and 'moving in the same direction' is necessary to achieve meaningful impact and as such, we have aligned with other businesses through the SDGs. As we move past the halfway point (2023) to the SDGs, we recognise how Oakdene Hollins contributes to sustainability; particularly our focus on creating a Net-Zero, Circular world safeguarding our planet and its resources. Our Environmental Policy is summarised below, framed in the context of the SDGs we see relevant to our advice and research, and the way in which we conduct our business:



SDG 3: Good Health and Wellbeing – Nature provides us with ecosystem services (also known as Nature's Contributions to People) which help businesses, governments, and people. At Oakdene Hollins, we recognise the importance of nature and the cultural benefits it provides (i.e. spiritual, aesthetic, recreational, physical health, and mental health). As such, we encourage the continual aspiration to preserve ecosystem services within our work, and the growing need for ecosystem services to be considered within

projects. Within our workplace preserving ecosystems and nature through encouraging a good work-life balance. Our staff have the flexibility of working from home and in the office. In addition, we have implemented additional health benefits for staff to enable them to thrive whilst at work.



SDG 7: Affordable and Clean Energy – Globally, the share of renewable sources in total final energy consumption amounted to 19.1% in 2020. At Oakdene Hollins, we purchase 100% renewable energy tariffs for our electricity, and are continuously improving our energy efficiency initiatives in our offices. Staff are also encouraged to take forward these initiatives outside of the office, to broaden our scope of positive impact. Furthermore, within our work with clients, we will continue to support the renewable sector and

recommendations for renewable energy implementation. This is not only in the implementation of renewables but in the development of circular solutions for the Critical Raw Materials (CRMs) and other valuable materials within the required infrastructure.



SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth – Our company is an inclusive space to be creative, diligent, and proactive, but compassionate. We practice ethical leadership at all levels of the business, internally within our team and externally with our clients. We support companies by giving recommendations, informed by robust analysis, which empower them to make decisions which benefit both the environment and long-term economic growth. For our staff, we

provide excellent working conditions allowing them to work from both the office and from home, giving them flexibility to balance work and life. Our main office location in the market town of Aylesbury, puts us a few miles from the Chilterns, Ashridge Forest, and other natural landscapes



which enable our staff to enjoy both city and rural lifestyles. Not only this, but our proximity to London and Oxford, and international presence in Brussels, allows our staff a variety of locations for living and working.



SDG 9: Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure: innovations to support a circular economy and net-zero Future – Our fourth pillar, Innovation, encompasses our support for development through quality management; give recommendations through robust, science-led research; and advocate for innovations which support a Net-Zero and Circular future. We support innovations through involvement in EU Horizon projects, projects with start-ups, strategic foresight projects to see where innovation is best placed to encourage a circular future. We are keen to work with industry trailblazers and are proud to work with companies who align with our own in terms of sustainability.



SDG 12: Responsible Consumption and Production – We advocate for the circular economy whereby we prioritise prevention followed by reduction; reuse, remanufacturing, repair, and refurbishment. This is echoed in our work, where the Circular Economy and Value Retention as two of our four key pillars. In 2024, we are implementing a green procurement policy to better implement the circular economy principles into our own procurement decisions. In addition, in 2024 we will sign up for the Taskforce for Financial

Nature Disclosure (TNFD) Industry Forum to give us access to new research and recommendations for supporting a sustainable balance between industry and nature. In addition, we support industries to achieve the environmentally sound management of chemicals and all wastes throughout their life cycle, in accordance with agreed international frameworks, and significantly reduce their release to air, water and soil to minimise their adverse impacts on human health and the environment.



SDG 13: Climate Action – At Oakdene Hollins, one of our four key pillars of work is Net-Zero. We are proud to work with thought-leading clients to deliver robust, science-led research to support a Net-Zero future. We endorse the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTi) as the gold standard for our clients to accelerate corporate climate action in reducing Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions. As an ambitious company-wide objective, we have committed to reaching Net Zero by 2040, having submitted our science-based targets to SBTi and engaging our team in delivering our Net Zero Roadmap.

Our baseline in 2021 showed us the areas in which we need to make changes to reduce our emissions. In 2022, we saw an increase in overall emissions, however, we are confident that we will still meet our 2040 target. We have implemented several internal changes to drive SBTi including the development of our Net-Zero Action team and increasing the efficiency of our data management and collection to support robust carbon accounting. We will continue to support the Net-Zero Action team and initiatives to reduce our carbon footprint.



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



SDG 17: Partnerships for the Goals – At Oakdene Hollins, we advocate for transparency, collaboration, and open discussion within value chains. We measure and monitor our impact on the environment, through carbon emissions, and understand the collective impact of worldwide activities. At Oakdene Hollins, we recognise that collaboration is required between consultancies, industry, governments, trade associations and the public if we are going to achieve the SDGs and will work to draw these synergies. We will

continue to encourage companies to adopt sustainable practices and to integrate sustainability information into their reporting cycle; promote public procurement practices that are sustainable, in accordance with national policies and priorities; and to where possible, collaborate for change for the climate and nature.

Our EMS policy is available on our website as well as our carbon reporting. EMS forms part of the induction training for all staff and is reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness. We aim to reduce our environmental impact year-on-year, to maintain our ISO 14001:2015 registration, and to communicate our commitment to the environment to our stakeholders. However, our overall aim is to enact real change by looking at not only at reduction of negative impact but promotion of incurring a positive impact on the environment. For this reason, we will continue to explore where we can support transformation, and regeneration both in our own operations and work with clients. Our main future challenge will be to identify pragmatic changes that will be restorative.

David Fitzsimons has ultimate responsibility for ensuring that the environmental system is adopted, used, improved, and understood by everyone at Oakdene Hollins as well as reaching the Oakdene Hollins 2040 Net-Zero target through SBTi.

Signed

David Fitzsimons, Director
Last updated: December 2023