

SHEPPARD ROBSON

**Unwavering focus
on the big picture**

Sustainability & Innovation Charter

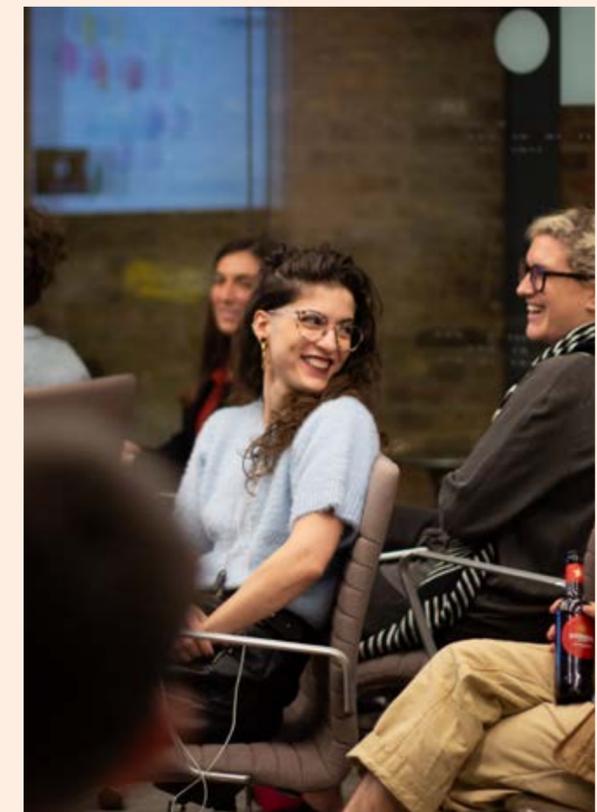
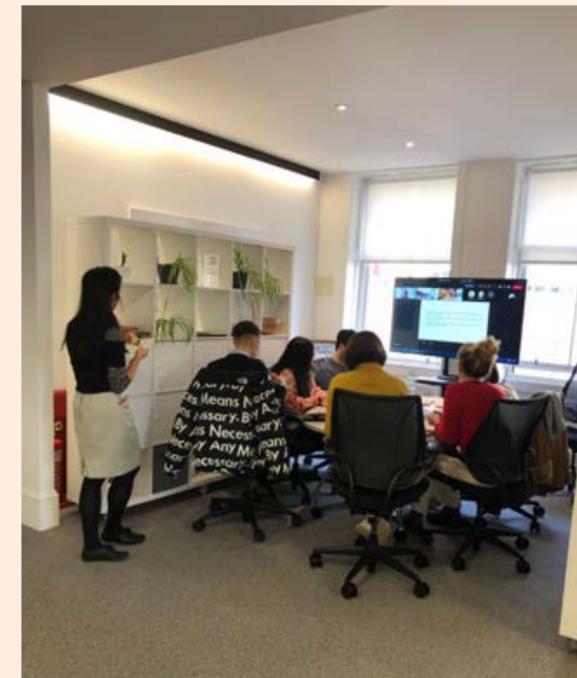
A time for action

“The scientific evidence is unequivocal: climate change is a threat to human wellbeing and the health of the planet. Any further delay in concerted global action will miss a brief and rapidly closing window to secure a liveable future,”
Hans-Otto Pörtner, IPCC

We first published this charter in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic as a statement to prioritise sustainable recovery. We must continue to urge the prioritisation to move beyond ‘back to normal’ and accelerate sustainable and regenerative development. The climate and biodiversity crisis is urgent—it is happening now and it is not slowing down.

At the advent of the Covid-19 pandemic, we witnessed the collective mobilisation possible for responding to an existential threat. It is this collective action that must be adopted to address the climate and biodiversity emergency.

Now more than ever, it is clear we need to act quickly and decisively. Our industry is pushing for change, and collaboration and engagement is critical to building working solutions. In recognition of this, we are revisiting and strengthening our commitments to reflect the urgency of the situation and prioritise a positive, equitable and sustainable future.



We believe that optimisation will come from our dexterity and unwavering focus on the big picture, delivered through seven key tenets:

01/ Promote – environmentally and socially responsible practice, innovation and action.

02/ Employ – sustainable design principles aligned to the RIBA 2030 Sustainable Outcomes.

03/ Establish – methodologies to meet ambitious and achievable mitigation targets and indicators. Monitor and Verify.

04/ Evaluate – in-use project performance in order to inform and optimise.

05/ Realise – a comprehensive toolkit for achieving net zero whole life carbon.

06/ Integrate – health, wellness and fairness considerations into practices and operations.

07/ Share – knowledge, research and data in a collaborative and considered manner.

Our supporting commitments and memberships:

- RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge
- Architects Declare Climate and Biodiversity Emergency
- AJ Retrofirst Campaign
- ISO 9001 and 14001 certification
- UKGBC membership
- Passivhaus Trust Membership

In 2020, we committed to amplifying our long-standing engagement with sustainability and innovation. Now is the time to reflect, strengthen and refocus on these commitments where the opportunity arises.

We have expanded our collaboration within the industry, engaging in research partnerships with academia and organisations such as UKGBC, for whom we contributed to the review group for 'Delivering Net Zero: Key Considerations for Commercial Retrofit'. This initiative highlights the importance we place on the closer scrutiny of the retention of existing buildings in the drive to reduce embodied carbon on projects.

We have restructured our in-house Sustainability Group to increase focus and engagement on key industry themes, aligning to RIBA Sustainable Outcomes. We have significantly increased the scope of our practice's own carbon footprint

reporting, which symbolises our commitment to transparency and the importance of performance-based data.

For our projects, we have established a formalised process for the RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge, developed net zero carbon roadmaps for typologies aligned to 'UKGBC Net Zero Carbon Buildings: A Framework Definition', and developed an in-house upfront embodied carbon tool to support our designers in the early design stages to understand embodied carbon implications from the outset of projects.

We are also further committing to social sustainability, with key investments into our social value policies and processes with the aim to further integrate these into our approach. Through more effective recording and sharing of these activities, we hope to better understand our impact and seek out new opportunities to improve this in our practices and operations.



Hanover House, as featured in UKGBC Delivering Net Zero: Key Considerations for Commercial Retrofit

Responsible, sustainable design requires an informed approach—one that cultivates thought leadership in addition to exemplary results. We aim to demonstrate leadership in the following ways:

Practice

Established in 2000, our Sustainability Group, led by our dedicated Head of Sustainability, spearhead meaningful research and practice initiatives.

Our team has extensive experience in leading sustainability and wellbeing rating systems, including industry recognised BREEAM, LEED, WELL Building Standard and RICS SKA Rating. We have certified Passivhaus designers in house.

We maintain an ISO 14001 compliant Environmental Management System, continually improving our performance across all locations and aspects of the practice. We have published our carbon reduction plan and committed to achieving net zero carbon emissions for reported scopes 1, 2 and 3 by 2050 at the latest. Progress on these commitments will be published every year.

Community

Community is intrinsic to our collective purpose - the work we deliver is co-created, people-centred, and precision-made.

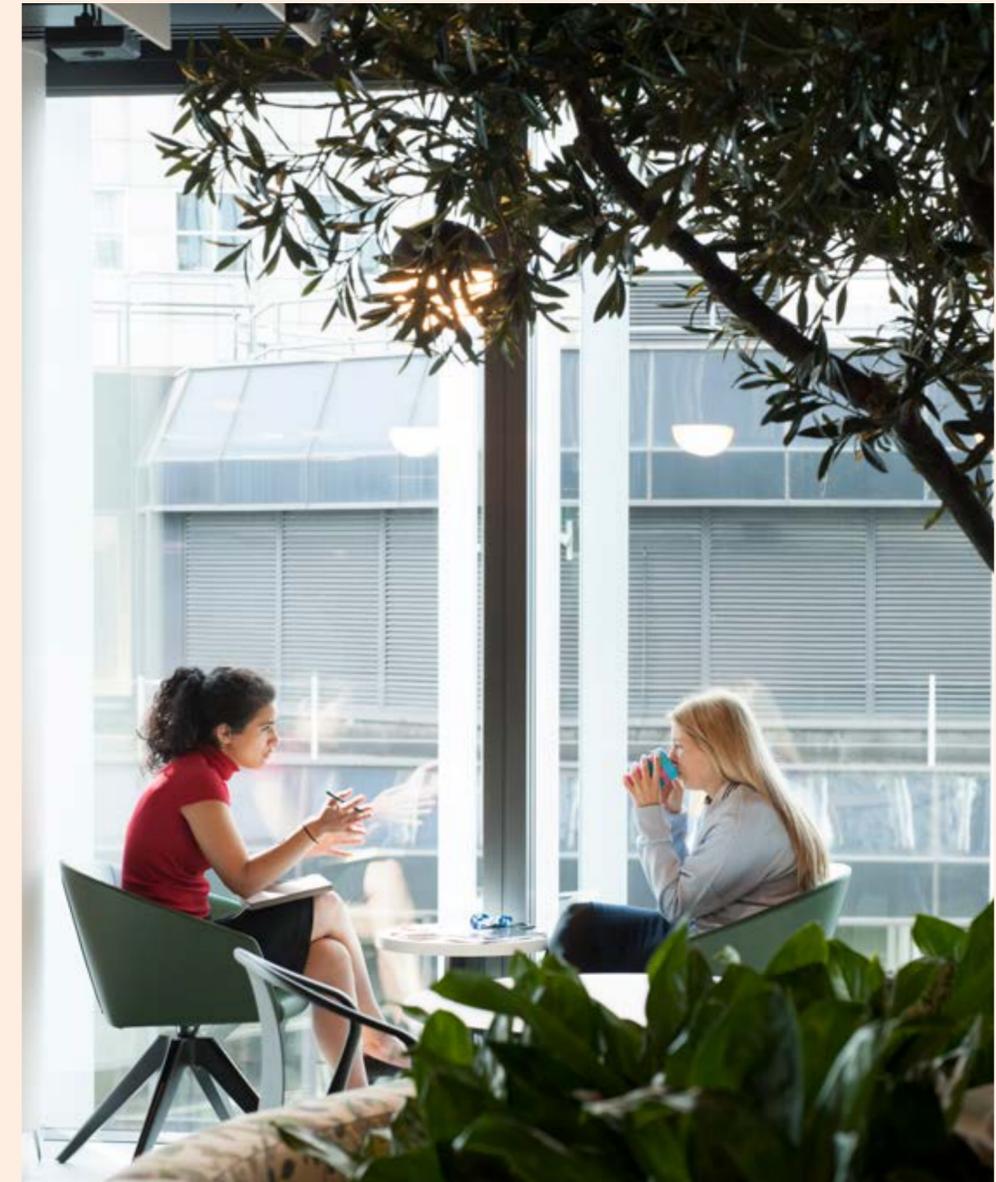
We are committed to promoting social value initiatives, with a focus on building communities, improving access and social mobility, and creating sustainable places — meeting the balance between the opportunities presented by economic growth and progress, and the responsibility of businesses to protect the natural environment and promote social equality.

Projects

We work diligently with our clients to realise practical, exemplar solutions. We recognise that a practice of our size and position within the industry should not be tied to a single solution; instead, we should be knowledgeable and confident in critically applying innovative, multifaceted approaches to create deliverable, sustainable solutions.

Our approach to design is driven by the fundamental belief that no building, space, or place can be considered well designed if it does not positively contribute to environmental, social, and economic sustainability. Design should be informed by science and an ambition to reduce the built environment's carbon footprint, and contribute toward holistic sustainable development, consequently promoting and enabling change in our industry and wider society.

Examples of projects that exemplify this approach are included on the following pages.



Biophilic features of the Deloitte headquarters

01. Mynydd Isa Campus, Flintshire

The first project developed under the Welsh 21st Century Schools MIM programme, the project aims to be net zero carbon in operation and BREEAM Excellent. The finger-block form inherently maximises natural ventilation and lighting, while solar shading strategies help to minimise overheating.

02. Ev0

The Ev0 Building is set to become one of the UK's lowest carbon-emitting workspaces.

The highly sustainable project is targeting the LETI 2020 design target for upfront carbon, the RIBA 2025 performance targets on whole-life embodied carbon, and the UKGBC Paris Proof target on operational energy use. It will follow the UK Green Building Council's (UKGBC) net zero carbon framework and achieve net zero carbon in upfront construction and operation. It is targeting NABERS 5.5* and BREEAM Excellent ratings.



01. Mynydd Isa Campus, Flintshire



02. Ev0

03. Plot C3 MediaCity

The 350,000ft² building has been designed to push forward the sustainable aspirations of the development, targeting BREEAM 'Outstanding', net zero carbon, NABERS 5* rating and WELL Gold. The net zero carbon target is based on latest guidance from the UKGBC for the performance of office buildings, which will see the building be net zero carbon in operation and the upfront embodied carbon being no more than 600kgCO₂e/m², which will be offset by recognised accredited schemes.



03. Plot C3 MediaCity

04. 245 Hammersmith Road

When designing a new office development centred around a tranquil new piece of public realm, the project team engaged with the local community to positively impact the surrounding area, delivering over £28 million of social value, during and following construction. The project was awarded the 'Social Innovation Award' in 2021 by The Social Value Portal, demonstrating a novel and creative approach to radically improve how social value is delivered or managed.



04. 245 Hammersmith Road



245 Hammersmith Road

05. Hardman Square Pavilion

Sheppard Robson's Hardman Square Pavilion features an expressed timber frame, which mitigates environmental impact due to its low embodied energy, exemplifying our belief that design sustainability should not compromise function or beauty; rather, it should be informed by an ambition to improve efficiency and reduce a building's impact on climate change.

06. Deloitte

Designed by Sheppard Robson's interior group, ID:SR, Deloitte's 270,000ft² addition to its London campus embraces agile working and an intelligent building system to drive efficiencies and set new standards for wellness and sustainability. On completion in 2019, the project was the largest WELL Gold, New and Existing Interiors project worldwide, and the first to achieve both BREEAM Outstanding and WELL Gold.



05. Hardman Square Pavilion



06. Deloitte



Hardman Square Pavilion

07. Lighthouse

The Sheppard Robson-designed Lighthouse was the UK's first net zero carbon house. The design set the precedent for homes where innovative environmental systems and construction methods do not compromise the quality of the occupants' life, but add to it—creating adaptable, flexible spaces designed for sustainable modern living.

08. Citicape House

The design for Citicape House, a hospitality-led, mixed-use concept, is characterised by the largest green wall in Europe (40,000ft²), creating a distinctive architectural addition to a gateway City of London site, while absorbing eight tonnes of pollution annually and setting the standard for urban greening in London.



07. Lighthouse



08. Citicape House

09. Contact Theatre

We partnered with Contact, the UK’s leading theatre for young people, on a major refurbishment and extension of its idiosyncratic, Alan Short-designed home in Manchester. We built upon the building’s original pioneering sustainable design as the first naturally ventilated theatre in the UK, with a co-creation process helping shape the design and ensuring Contact remained a vital community asset. The client team opted for a Soft Landings approach. The two year aftercare process ensures the building and its spaces are optimised for comfort whilst being as energy efficient as possible.



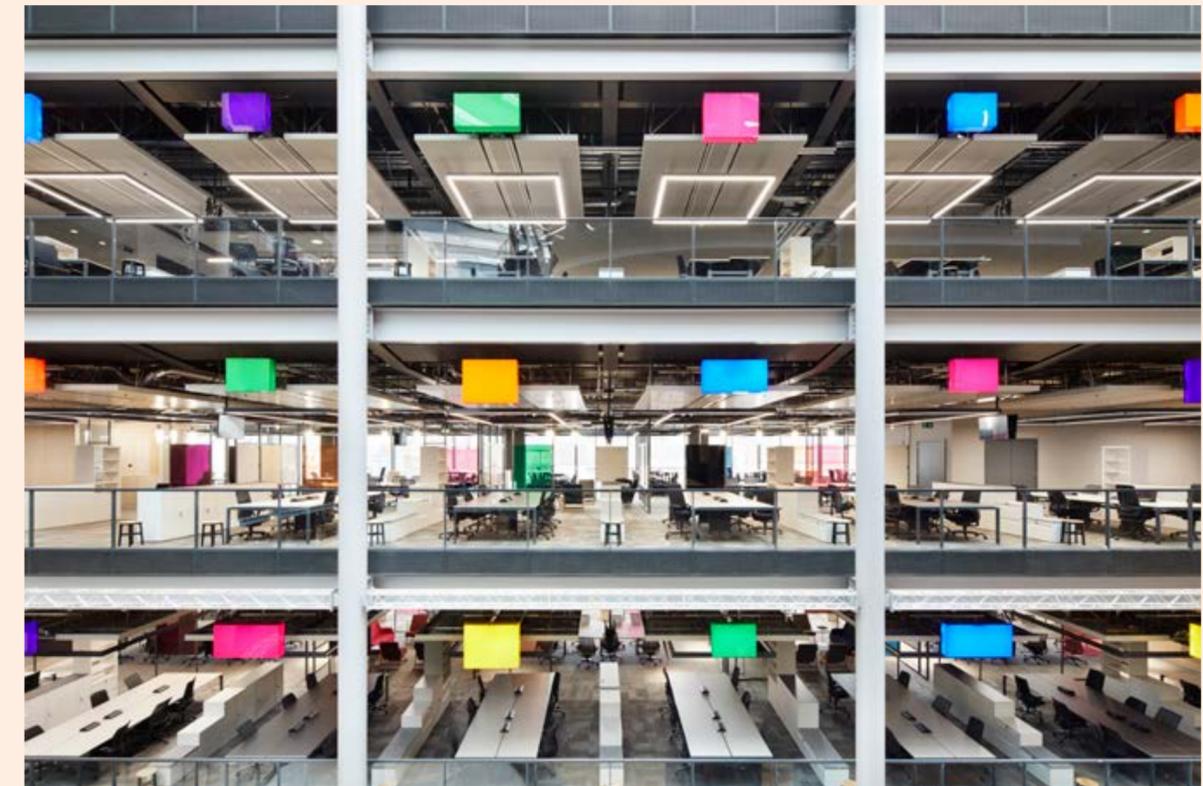
09. Contact Theatre

10. BBC Cymru Wales

BBC Cymru Wales Central Square’s new BREEAM Outstanding broadcast centre in the heart of Cardiff relocates around 1,000 production and support staff from its former facility in Llandaff, which was in need of modernisation.

The project mandated high-quality experiences for as many people as possible, pushing the design team to reach new levels of inclusivity. We considered how neurological differences—

or neurodiversity—can lead to decidedly different experiences of space. Our designs considered: how landmarks, colour and texture can assist wayfinding; using the right colours and contrasts in the manifestations, fabrics and flooring; and training the reception staff to help all people use the building.



10. BBC Cymru Wales

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