

Why Armstrong's boot print.....?

As of the date of President Kennedy's famous "We choose to go to the moon...." speech, the USA had not even put a man into earth's orbit. Yet less than 8 years later they had met his challenge, and on 20 July 1969, Neil Armstrong left his iconic boot print on the surface of the moon and returned safely to earth. The scale of our challenge is no less daunting, the impact of not achieving it perhaps even more consequential, but it remains mission possible......

"Working together with others, we need to achieve the decarbonisation of construction by at least fifty percent this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy but because they are hard; because that goal will serve to organise and measure the best of our energies and skills, because that challenge is one that we are willing to accept, one we are unwilling to postpone, and one we intend to win......!"



Welcome to our journey:

The Kennedy speech setting out his country's ambition to go to the moon is the perfect analogy for where we are now in the challenge to decarbonise construction.

The scale of the task is daunting, almost beyond our comprehension, and certainly beyond most of our available technology, materials, and science. But every journey, however vast and seemingly unachievable must start with those first steps; these are ours.

This report sets out our purpose, our focus as a business, and the impact which has been achieved since our certification as a B Corporation, as well as our next steps and ambitions as we travel towards our re-certification in mid-2023.

We are proud of our achievements during these initial steps of our B Corp journey, all the more so given the challenges of operating a business through a global pandemic, and all that has meant for our people and the communities in which we operate. Our three primary commitments to **People, Places**, and **Planet** continue to drive us as a business across all that we do.

Across these commitment areas, it has never been more vital to address the acute climate, environmental, and biodiversity emergencies that we now face as a planet. Our sector is currently responsible for between 35 – 40% of the world's total carbon emissions. If we are to have hope of stabilising our planet and constraining global temperatures to 1.5 degrees net gain, then as a sector we must reduce this level of emissions by at least half by 2030.

This represents an unprecedented challenge to the global construction and infrastructure sectors. We have only seven and a bit years left to change the world and build a positive legacy for future generations. As a business, our next steps are focussed on how we can contribute with others to meet this significant reduction in carbon emissions, delivering Carbon Leadership across the built and natural environment.

We hope that you enjoy reading about our First Impact and that it may inspire you to join us in meeting this challenge. We welcome your ideas, feedback, and collaboration in supporting **People**, **Places**, and **Planet**, as we take the next steps on our journey.

This has to be Mission possible!

Best

Andy & the WWA Team

Recognition of our impact

While delivering great projects for our clients across the country, in tandem with our internal focus on supporting our teams in a challenging environment, we have been privileged to have been recognised for our impact from the following prestigious independent bodies.

We're just starting out on our B Corp journey, but as all B Corps are businesses that are judged to have met the highest standards of verified social and environmental performance, public transparency and legal accountability to profit and purpose we're honoured to have achieved B Corp certification – and inspired to go further.

We are extremely proud to have been awarded the Queen's Award for Enterprise for our outstanding achievements in Sustainable Development. The coveted honour sees WWA named as one of only a handful of Sustainable Development winners in the construction sector, cementing our position as an industry trailblazer for **People, Places** and **Planet**.















Why B Corp?

B Corp Certification is the only certification that measures a company's entire social and environmental performance. The B Impact Assessment evaluates how a company's operations and business model impact our governance, workers, community, environment, and customers.

At WWA we have been subject to this rigorous assessment; from our supply chain and environmental impact to our charitable giving and employee benefits, B Corp Certification is proof that a business is meeting the highest standards of verified performance. Along with peers across multiple sectors in the UK and overseas, we have identified the B Corp accreditation as the strongest independent assessment of our Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) performance. Most importantly, however, is that the B Corp framework enables us to target actions to improve our impact, and to work in collaboration with other businesses to make tangible improvements in our services, operations and partnerships.

Becoming a B Corporation focuses the full WWA team on continuous improvement with progress measured through a re-certification every 3-years within the B Impact Assessment.



How did we score in 2020?

Based on the B Impact Assessment, we achieved an overall score of 135.5. The median score for businesses that complete the assessment is 50.9 and the pass-mark is 80.

At the time of certification in 2020 we were the 4th highest scoring B Corp in the UK and the first (and still the only) Chartered Surveyors in the World to achieve this highly sought-after accreditation. We have been awarded 'Best for the World' status for our impact in the Workers theme in both 2021 and 2022.

There are now over 5,000 B Corps around the world, across 156 industries in 82 countries, with over 422,400 workers. Our team is committed to using 'business as a force for good' and we have proudly become a leading advocate of the benefits of the B Corp approach for businesses across our sector and Co-Chair of the B Corp UK Built Environment Working Group.

We are the 1st Chartered Surveyors

IN THE WORLD

to certify as a B Corporation









IMPACT





































INFLUENCE

















SUPPORT











How People, Places and Planet aligns with UN SDG's

In 2015, the United Nations and its 193 member countries adopted the ambitious Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) - a 15-year plan that addresses 17 global and interconnected issues, including the reduction in poverty and hunger, putting an end to discrimination, and preventing the long-term consequences of climate change. They are seen as "the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all".

As a business we have directed our efforts through the lens of 'People, Places and Planet' and focused interventions aligned to the UN SDG's. In understanding how we can play our role in global sustainable development, we have identified goals in which we aim to Impact, Influence & Support.







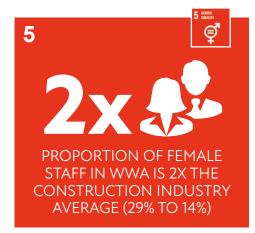
People

Places

Planet

Our direct SDG impacts...



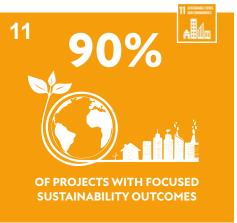




















10 Small steps so far....

4. Engaged with over 20 businesses and networks of over

800 people on our B Corp Journey and sustainability approach.





10. Underlined our declaration of a Climate Emergency with a business-wide **carbon review** and action plan.

3. 60% WWA fleet cars moved to EV.



5. Donated company's EVs to the community during Covid-19 for local businesses to enable home food deliveries.



9. 12 staff trained as

Mental Health
First Aiders.



2. Green Commute
Staff Cycle
to Work
Scheme launched.



6. Formalised our

Volunteering programme for all staff to participate in group or individual good causes.





8. Delivered
Diversity &
Inclusion awareness
to our teams.

1.



7. Partnered with Schools, Further & Higher

Education providers to deliver online careers events during

deliver online careers events during the pandemic.

9-day Fortnight

Trialled across the business.

People

Inspire, nurture and provide a platform for our People to excel professionally and personally.

From engagement in schools, developing our long-term apprenticeship programme, and upskilling our workforce to enabling our teams to reach their full potential, financial wellbeing clinics, and dedicated personal and professional 1-2-1 coaching, our commitment to our People is long-standing.



50% GROWTH IN WORKFORCE IN THE LAST 5 YEARS

71% Male 29% Female MORE THAN TWICE THE INDUSTRY AVERAGE FOR WOMEN IN CONSTRUCTION

Our overarching 'WWA Futures' workforce development programme sets the framework of opportunity for all team members, and is an area we have focused our impact efforts on since B Corp accreditation in 2020 with a series of initiatives as set out in the following sections.

- WWA Futures
- Growing the next generation
- WWA Flexy





WWA Futures

WWA Futures is a comprehensive life long learning development programme to provide professional and personal skills development and support throughout an individual's career path. Starting from our engagement with Junior Schools through all levels of education and into Further and Higher Education, we aim to engage and inspire the next generation.

As a WWA team member, we have sought to develop an industry-leading programme of structured professional development, including:

- Technical Skills & Innovation
- Carbon Leadership
- Leadership & Management
- Personal Skills
- Environmental Leadership

Much of our training is aligned to the programmes of our educational partners to support our apprentices complete their qualifications. A mixture of Face-to-Face and eLearning sessions will make up courses that are assigned to individuals based on needs earmarked in Personal Development Reviews.

66

I chose to come to WWA for my placement as I knew that I would have the opportunity to work on a variety of projects, ranging from major infrastructure works to smaller community based schemes. Working on such a range of projects that WWA undertake has given me a much broader insight into the industry and potential sectors that I might look to specialise in for the future. Furthermore, joining a consultancy has enabled me to see the whole life cycle of projects (not just the construction phase) which has clarified my understanding of the roles each stakeholder plays within projects. Lastly, the very fact that WWA are certified B-Corp and care about sustainable development is a massive pull factor.

Hamish Walker Placement Student (Project Management)



Rosie Fenton -Project Manager

My plans for the future are to sit my APC in June 2023 and continue to work on projects that expand my knowledge in order for me to grow my career within WWA.

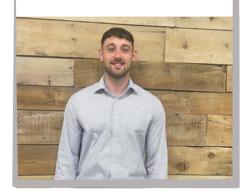


Emma Brown Placement Student (Quantity Surveying)

I chose to do my placement at WWA due to the friendly atmosphere and the great range of interesting projects I would be involved with. Also, the values WWA has as a company assured me that I would be respected and valued as an employee.

Dedication to social and environmental sustainability backed up by B-Corp certification made WWA stand out to me as a place where I could have an impact on this area of shared enthusiasm.

Kai Holland - Placement Student (Quantity Surveying)





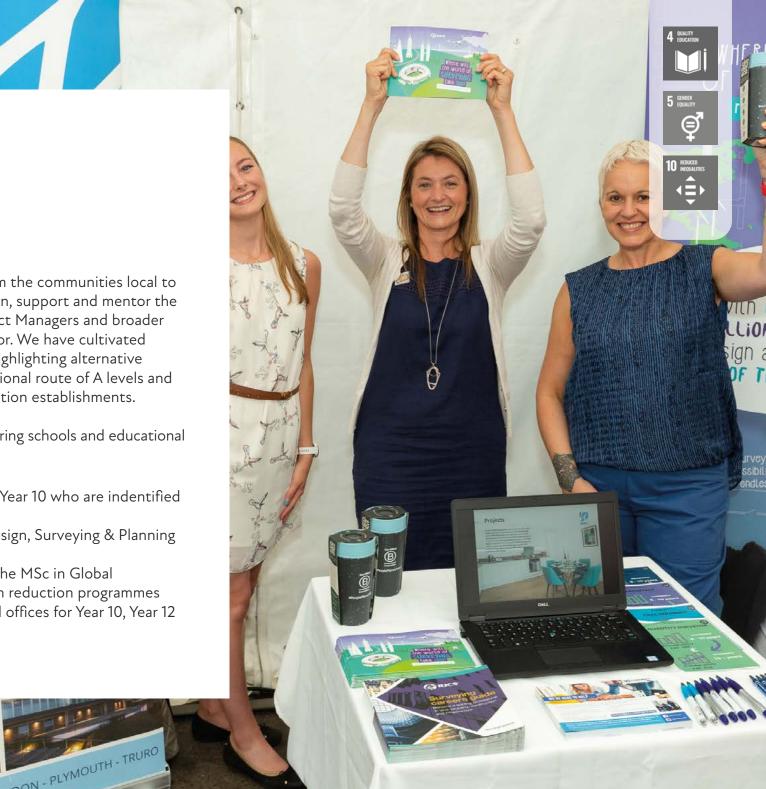


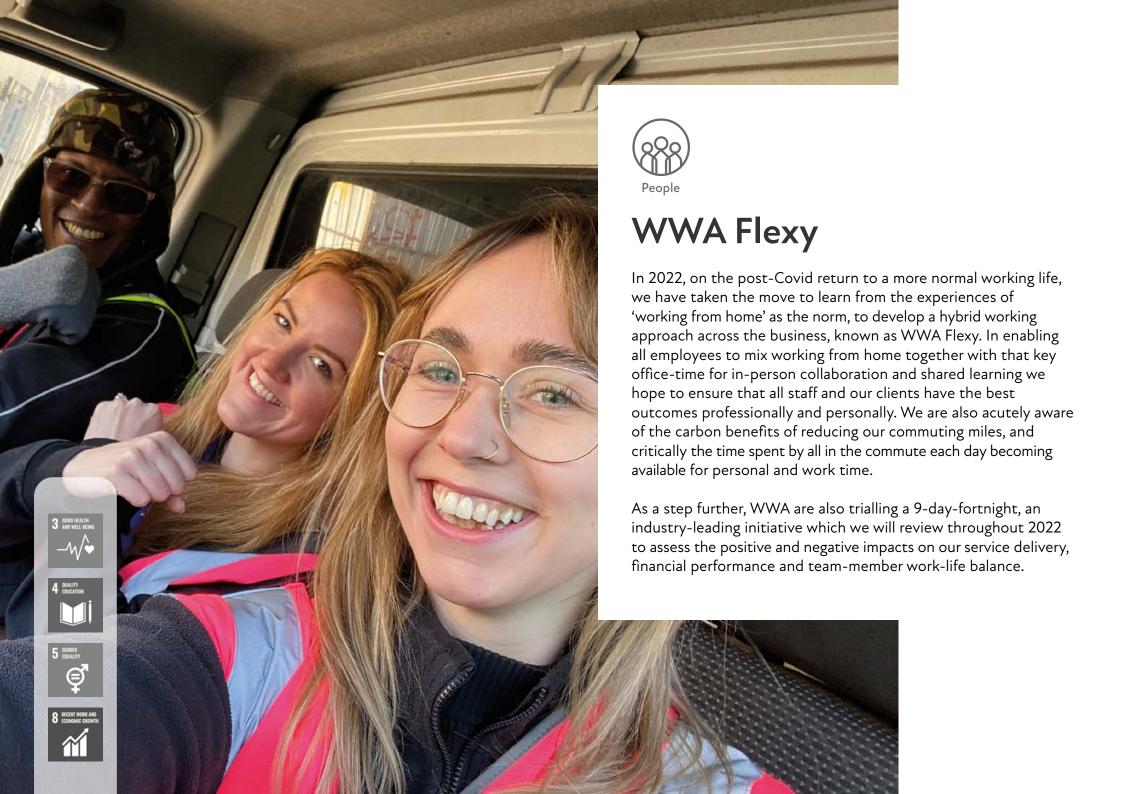
Growing the next generation

We are proactively employing apprentices from the communities local to our 7 offices across the country, to inspire, train, support and mentor the next generation of Chartered Surveyors, Project Managers and broader professions across the Built Environment sector. We have cultivated relationships with local schools and colleges highlighting alternative options for bright young talent than the traditional route of A levels and degrees delivered in Further and Higher Education establishments.

Our focused outreach work has included delivering schools and educational engagement activity in:

- Disadvantaged communities
- Focused STEM sessions for young women in Year 10 who are indentified as high-achievers
- Partnering with the T Level programme in Design, Surveying & Planning at Further Education colleges
- Partnering with the University of Exeter for the MSc in Global Sustainability to help develop WWA's carbon reduction programmes
- Growing our Work Experience offer across all offices for Year 10, Year 12 and University students







Leading, influencing & collaborating in our sector

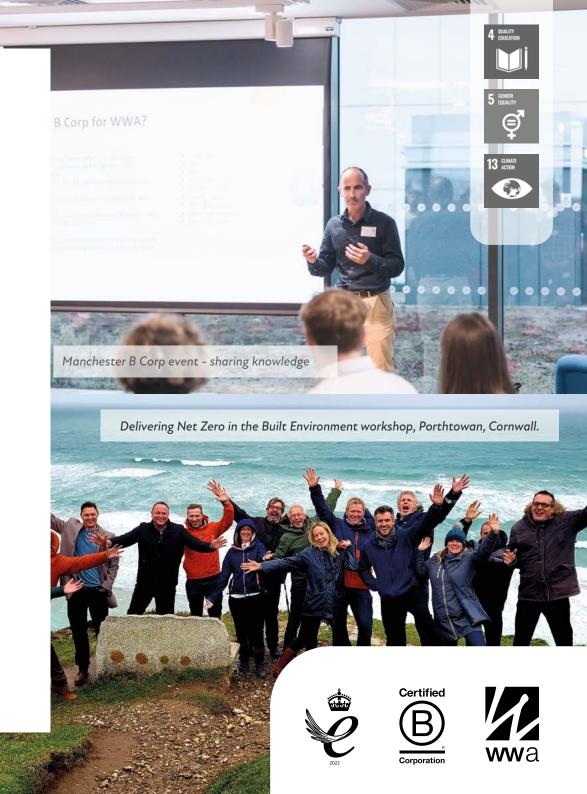
There are currently over 1,000 B Corp certified organisations in the UK, across 56 industries, employing over 42,000 individuals. Only 20 of these are construction related businesses (3%) and WWA are the first Chartered Surveyors in the World to be certified.

One of our key commitments as a B Corp is to "inspire, advise and inform the people we impact and influence: our team, consultants and those communities we serve, through the development of affordable, brilliant sustainable places where we can live, work learn, play, travel and care".

We have been delighted to have collaborated with like-minded partners across our sector and beyond to use 'business as a force for good' through a series of events based on sustainable business, B Corp and delivering impact in the built environment sector.

WWA have delivered over 20 of these events in the last 12 months to over 800 attendees including:

- The University of Exeter
- South West Women in Construction
- Tevi, Cornwall
- The Safety, Health & Environment Show
- Cornwall Chamber of Commerce events
- Low Carbon Devon
- Plymouth City Council
- NatWest Bank
- Constructing Excellence Regional Clubs







Hall For Cornwall - Truro

The project delivered the complex regeneration and retrofitting of one of Cornwall's primary cultural assets. The whole of the works were undertaken within the footprint of a landmark existing Grade II Listed building, in the heart of Truro's busy city centre.

As a symbiotic component of Truro's economy and critical to Cornwall's wider economic and cultural wellbeing, the Hall For Cornwall now provides a new multi-layered auditorium and convening space, as well as workspaces and refreshment areas. By employing a strategy of refurbishment and reuse of existing building fabric wherever possible, the Grade II Listed project achieved a BREEAM 'Very Good' rating.

During its planning and redevelopment, the project also provided the platform for community outreach, involving children from local secondary schools, the opportunity for Apprenticeships arising from the construction process, as well as a continuing programme of cultural and learning activities that were delivered across the county.

The project has recently won the Constructing Excellence South West award for Conservation and Regeneration.







The Wave - Bristol

The Wave is a project founded on the triple-bottom line, from its concept, to its design and construction, through to its operation and outreach, it would be difficult to find a project more rooted in regenerative and sustainable principles.

The ambition of its Founder, Nick Houndsfield, was to create a place that utilised surfing and the benefits of "Blue Health", in a sympathetic natural setting to improve health and wellbeing for all. Being inclusive and accessible for both able bodied and disabled users was a primary objective, and the facility is now regularly used by adaptive surfers and other disabled water users.

The project's outreach programme regularly takes its team of "Wavemakers" out into under-represented local communities, providing opportunities for those from inner city communities to learn to surf. The project offers a reconnection to nature through surfing, for people of all ages, backgrounds and abilities.

Extensive use of recycled and sustainable materials were deployed in the construction of the project. From recycled aggregates and glass being used for all of the concrete, to sustainably sourced timber for the frame and cladding of the club house. Extensive renewable technologies have also been used, including solar PV and thermal water systems.

A forthcoming second phase of the project, will see the addition of a solar PV farm that will provide 100% of its energy needs.



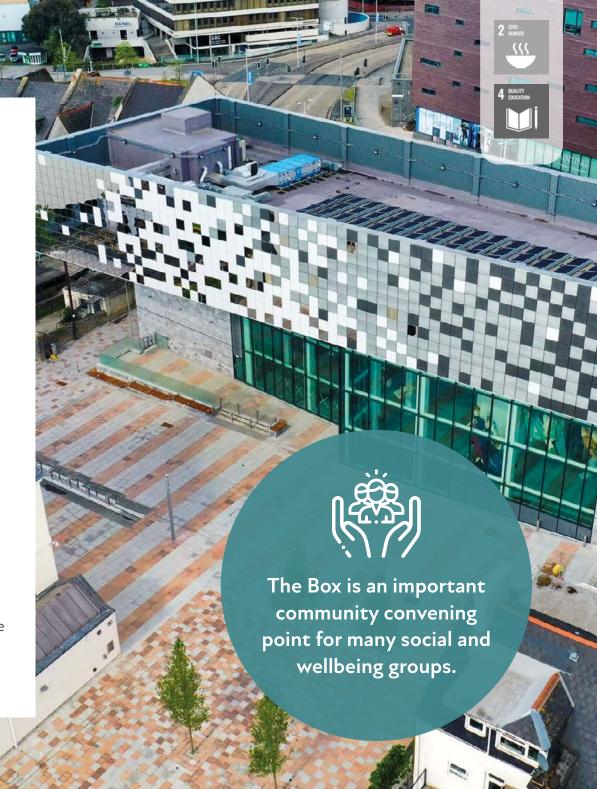
The Box - Plymouth

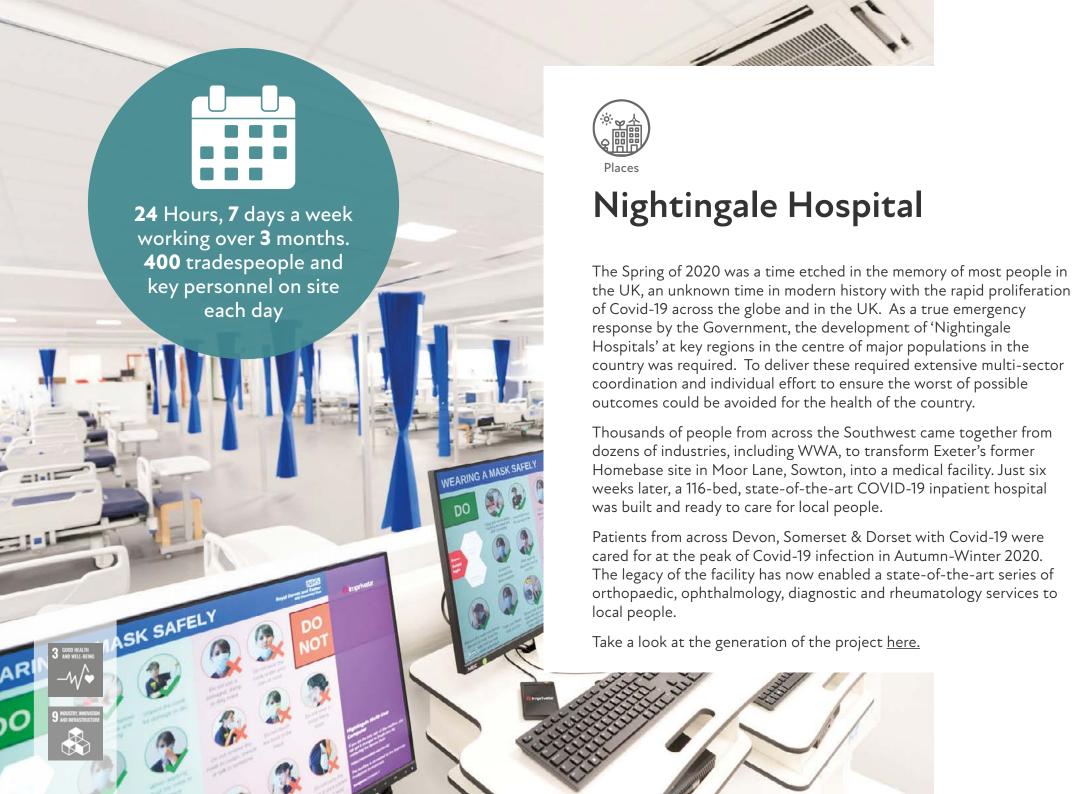
The Box provides a new museum, gallery and archive for the Ocean City's significant historic collections and artifacts, making them more accessible to the community and creating a key cultural attraction for both local people and the wider region.

The project's vision is to put arts and heritage at the heart of the city and of the South West, transforming people's lives, and creating a place and experience to share its rich and diverse collections and its stories with the world.

The refurbishment of the historic St Luke's Church and the creation of a new public square for performance, theatre, and events has been a key element of this major development. The Box is an integral part of the social and economic success of Plymouth, attracting visitors and providing a hub for education and learning.

As well as being an important attraction and archive for the city, The Box is an important community convening point for many social and wellbeing groups. The Arts and Minds group provides facilities for people living with early to moderate stage dementia or memory loss, and their carers, friends, or relatives. The Women's Craft Collective is a group for women of all ages and cultures who meet every Friday to share and learn traditional crafts. While the Memory Loan Boxes are available for local care homes and groups for older people to borrow to support their mental health initiatives.













Our Community Matters



In 2021, we launched a new initiative called 1% For Our Communities. This programme will see an independently audited sum equivalent to 1% or more of the business's gross annual turnover being donated annually within the communities in which WWA operates or impacts.

This donation will be made up of a combination of 'in-kind' volunteering days, 'pro-bono' support to community projects, and charitable donations in support of local and national charities/community groups.

NUMBER OF HOURS VOLUNTEERING IN 2021

1.38%

OF TURNOVER DONATED





Planet

Deliver projects that will directly address the Climate Emergency while ensuring our operations are Carbon Neutral by 2030

From the initiation of our 'Green Team' in 2010 to our leading role in delivering sustainable development across the UK, we are wholeheartedly focused on ensuring a positive environmental impact on all of our work as a business.

In the services delivered, our operations and our future growth, we are committed to developing that focus. The Planet section of our report outlines of these key impact areas:

- Carbon Leadership
- Carbon Neutral Action Plan 2030
- Biodiversity in Project Delivery



Carbon leadership

Enabling Net Zero Carbon ambitions for our Clients

The construction and built environment sector has long had a significant impact on UK and global carbon emissions, a negative force with a total contribution of around 35 - 40% of all emissions. This cannot continue if we are serious about addressing the Climate Emergency and leaving a built environment which respects and supports the wider natural environment.

At WWA we have implemented robust, meaningful tools within our service delivery which can enable our Clients and Project Teams to deliver a much improved carbon position for projects developed, from initial concepts through to operation. With this approach, we are ensuring that Carbon is managed alongside the wider factors of Cost, Quality and Programme, while working towards the UK Government Net-Zero Strategy and UK Green Building Council Net-Zero Whole Life Carbon Roadmap

What are Whole Life-Cycle Carbon Assessments?

Whole Life-Cycle Carbon (WLC) emissions are the carbon emissions resulting from the materials, construction and the use of a building over its entire life, including its demolition and disposal. A Life Cycle Assessment provides a true picture of a building's carbon impact on the environment.

WWA are currently implementing this approach across our projects and upskilling our teams in a bid to drive improvements in the delivery of low and zero carbon developments through targeted focus on embodied and operational carbon reduction in all projects we work on

Benefits at each design stage include:

- Cost / Quality / Carbon assessment of projects.
- Enabling project teams to optimise their design.
- 'Top 5 Actions' to take at each stage.







WWA Carbon Neutral Action Plan

In addition to considering the environmental and carbon impacts of the projects we deliver, we have a concerted focus on the carbon impact of our operations at WWA.

Working with expert consultancy Aardvark EM, we have been able to baseline our carbon emissions across the full extent of our operations within Scope 1, Scope 2 and select Scope 3 emission areas. This has given us a strong basis to develop focused interventions which reduce these emissions in current and future years across contractual, technical and behavioural actions.

In 2019, our baseline carbon emissions were calculated to be 95.19 tonnes CO2. Both 2020 and 2021 saw significantly reduced carbon emissions at less than 50% of the baseline level, however these were greatly influenced by the Covid-19 impact on businesses and society as a whole.

Throughout 2022, our focus has been on the higher emission areas of our operations, including:

- Our travel hierarchy eliminate / reduce / EV first / travel sustainably
- Moving to renewable energy tariffs where possible and influencing landlords
- Office-based behavioural change from the promotion of energy efficiency actions
- An off-setting plan based on a net balance of emissions being addressed through accredited, offsetting solutions which are preferably local to our offices and business activities.

In our first full-year of monitoring and managing our carbon emissions, we will assess our balance of emissions and identify the balance to be offset.

2019: 95.19 tonnes C02e

70.00 61.94 60.00 30.00 20.00 14.26 18.98 10.00 Scope 1 Scope 2 Scope 3

Figure 1: WWA 2019 GHG Emissions Tonnes CO₂e

Scope 1: includes the use of natural gas for heating and transport related fuels.

Scope 2: emissions typically come from the consumption of electricity used for lighting, office computers, devices etc, and EV Charging at offices.

Scope 3: includes indirect emissions; business travel by means not owned or controlled by an organisation, waste disposal and purchased goods & services. Employee commuting data is inaccurate currently but is significant (estimate used in recent Government submission) and will need to be added in the future.

We were delighted to partner with the University of Exeter's Global Sustainability MSc to offer internship placements in developing our Carbon Netural Action Plan.

Natasha and Katy worked with our team to enage, consult, and develop options which directly involve staff in this key programme of work.

Biodiversity

WWA sees the need to ensure construction and development supports both the built and natural environment working as one. We're pleased to be working across a range of projects and in our own business which place biodiversity as a prime factor in the success of a project.

Biodiversity Net Gain is an approach to development that aims to leave the natural environment in a measurably better state than it was beforehand, a regenerative approach which can restore and replenish the natural environment through the work which we do.

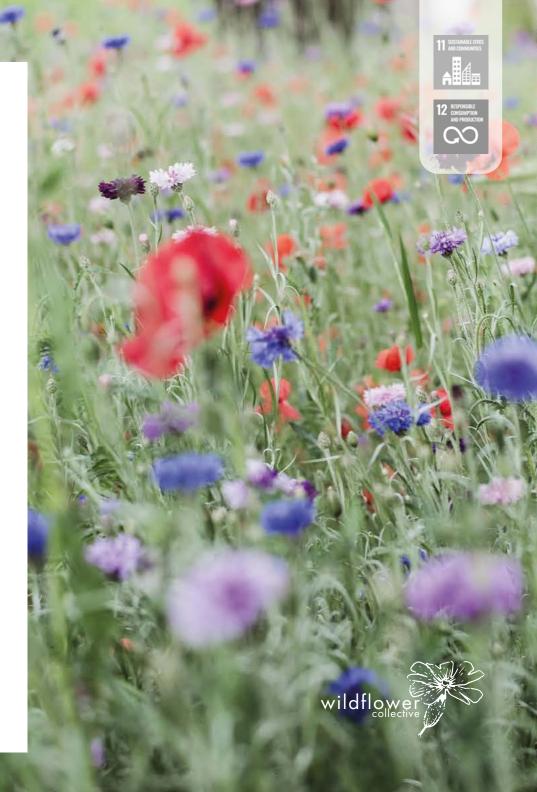
St Austell Bay Resilient Regeneration

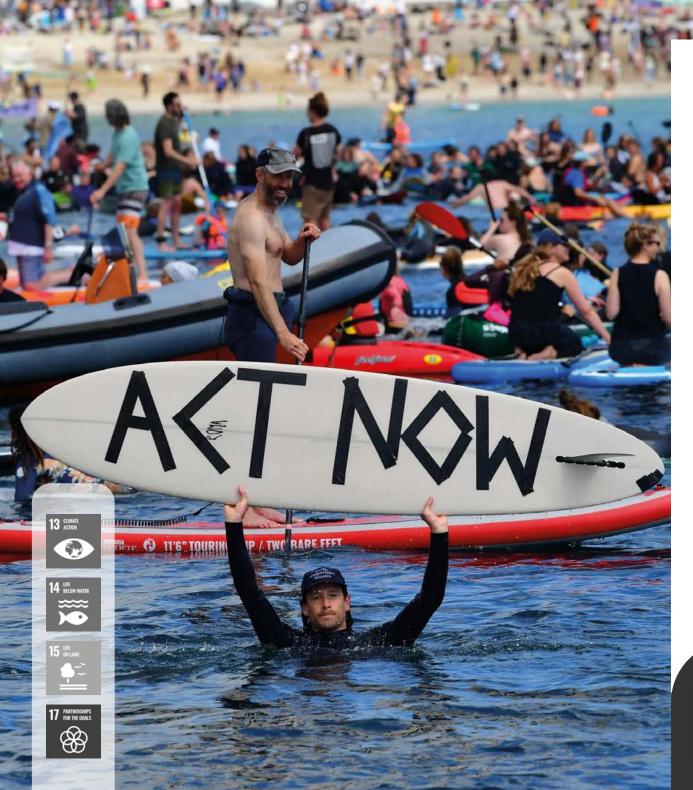
The St Austell Bay Resilient Regeneration project aims to reduce flood risk to communities living and working in the St Austell Bay area, particularly in Par and St. Blazey, encourage investment and help create a better place to work, live and play. Significant biodiversity benefits have been planned as core to this project:

- Expectation project will achieve over 30% Biodiversity Net Gain.
- Over 10,500 native trees planted creating cross slope woodland.
- Over 15,000m2 of species-rich grassland reinstatement.
- Sustainable Urban Drainage water storage basins finished with a species-rich wetland mix.
- 100% of all timber used to be FSC.
- Enabling higher quality public access to green spaces.

WWA Truro Office & University of Exeter Wildflower Collective

Members of our Truro team with a passion for biodiversity are developing a new wildflower initiative at the WWA office with 1m2 of new wildflower areas for each of those working at the office, and further bird and bee boxes to support nature in the area.





We campaign together for issues that matter to us and the planet

There's an inactive activist in all of us. We all see issues and situations that affect **People**, **Places**, and the **Planet** that are unjust, inequitable, or that are incompatible with how we need to live in an increasingly compromised world.

We believe that where there are issues that affect us or others, the places or communities we live or work in, or that are compromising the planet on which we all depend, it is right that we should campaign individually, as a business, or with others in an effort to drive change.

As Margaret Mead rightly said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed citizens can change the world: Indeed it's the only thing that ever has."

As a business, we recently took part in the Surfers Against Sewage, "Million Mile Clean" - of beaches and canals around our office locations. In Summer of 2021, our team also took part, with over a thousand other water users, at the G7 Conference paddle-out protest, drawing the attention of world leaders to ocean health.







....and a Direction of Travel with our Next Steps



4. Calculate & Communicate our Carbon Impact in project delivery internally and externally.



10. Further embed and develop our People,
Places & Planet vision for WWA into our internal and external impact.

3. Identify and utilise material innovation with construction.



5. Operational Scope 3

Carbon
Emissions

extended focus.



9. Extend our reach into Schools, Colleges & Universities to engage and empower the next generation.



2. Focus on
Retrofit
and Re-Use
for all clients and
sectors.

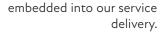


6. Secure local partnerships with our Carbon Neutral strategy to deliver benefits to our local environment.



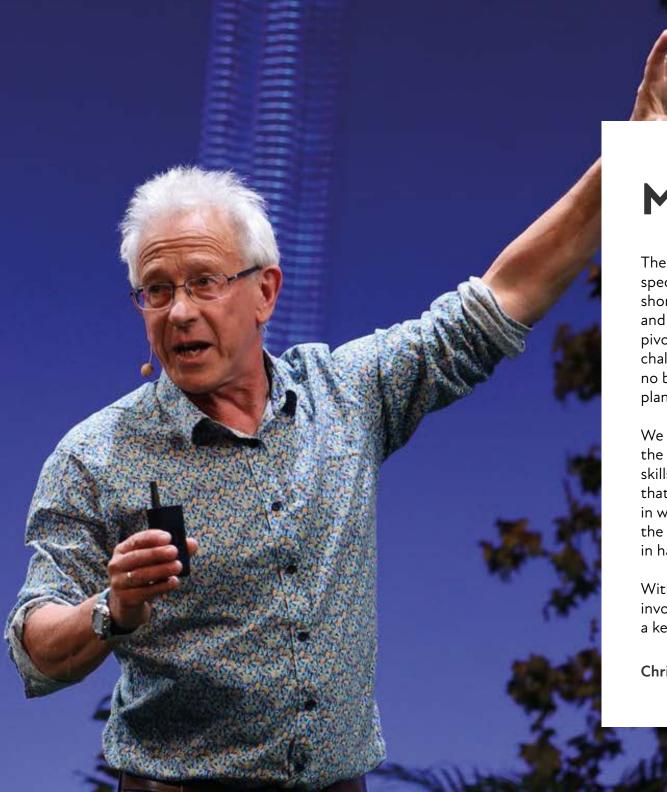
8. Staff Financial
Wellbeing
Programme to
commence.

1. Carbon Leadership









Mission Possible!

The climate and biodiversity challenges facing the human species are huge and unprecedented. We are also falling way short in terms of equality and equity. The construction sector and its influence on buildings and places and societies is pivotal in whether we are successful in meeting those challenges. We must commit to absolute decisive action, no ifs, no buts, continuously reviewing and refining our actions and plans, as we strive forwards.

We must stretch every sinew and buzz every neurone to be the very best we can and to share our collective knowledge, skills, passion and determination. We need to use every tool that has been used to develop and sell the version of the world in which we currently live, and we need to use them better, for the right set of values and a vision of a world where we all live in harmony with each other and this amazing planetary home.

With its proven commitment, and the ability and skills to be involved in every phase of a construction project, WWA can be a key player to help make these positive changes a reality.

Chris Hines MBE Hon.D.Sc.



Together we must make an imprint on the world

wwa.uk.com



#PeoplePlacesPlanet