Environment and Sustainability



OUR POLICY

OBJECTIVE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that Connect Plus proactively manages its environmental responsibilities while positively impacting the M25 Community. We are committed to actively identifying and implementing measures to minimise our environmental footprint, striving to be recognised not only as a company that efficiently manages the M25 but also as a leader in environmental stewardship. The implementation of this policy is led by the Connect Plus Chief Executive Officer, with every member of our team playing a vital role in its success.

WHAT THIS POLICY DEMANDS OF US

We **comply** with all relevant laws, regulations, standards, including ISO 14001, and with the M25 DBFO Contract.

We maintain an **environmentally sustainable business** using innovative whole life strategies to improve the performance of the Network.

We **work closely** with the M25 Community to build strong partnerships, engage our people, promote best practice and build a healthy community.

We **protect and improve the environment**, focusing on reducing emissions, water use and wastes and minimising disruption and promoting enhancement. Ensuring no net loss of biodiversity on the project road.

Environmental Commitments:

We will seek to proactively reduce our environmental impact through assessing environmental risk, applying measures to mitigate and prevent pollution, preparing for environmental emergencies and exploring opportunities that enhance the preservation of natural resources and reduce our impact on climate change.

At Connect Plus, we are committed to:

- We aim to use our Carbon Strategy to reduce our Carbon emissions in line with the UK Government's Net Zero Economy commitment by 2050 and we committed to reduce street lighting and therefore energy consumption where it is safe to do so, in line with the latest highways street lighting standards (TD501).
- Our Carbon Statement is focused around four key areas; our business operations, our maintenance and construction, road user emissions and our climate resilience.
- Update our Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP) annually and the AQMP seeks to align with the National Highways' Air Quality Strategy 2017 (HE AQS) which currently focuses on NO2.
- Renewing all pavement with low noise surfacing and we will ensure our activities result in a long term and sustainable benefit to the environment with the treatments for resurfacing the pavement surface will be assessed against noise (both during the construction period and generated in use), waste generation and the use of limited natural resources during their lifecycle.
- Annually update our Landscape Management Plan (LMP) which is a comprehensive management document for the whole of the Project Facilities soft estate which includes monitoring our impact on biodiversity. We monitor and treat invasive species and ensuring no net loss of biodiversity on the project road.
- To use our annual Cultural Heritage Asset Management Plan (CHAMP) to outline methods to combat noise pollution, including the planting of hedgerow and trees to mitigate the noise of the network.

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- To annually update our Climate Vulnerability Assessment with the main objective of this is to ensure that climate change, and impacts associated with extreme weather, are considered at an early stage so that they can be avoided and, if that is not possible, mitigated.
- DBFO Co have a Waste Duty of Care, which in accordance with our Waste Management Procedure, ensure that all waste is stored, transferred, disposed of, processed and re-used in accordance with relevant environmental legislation at all sites, company offices, depots and fixed locations throughout its complete journey to final disposal or recovery. This includes hazardous waste.
- Update and review our Surface Water Outfalls Plan (SWOP) which identifies the location, sensitivity, and proposed treatment of all the outfalls relating to the Project Facilities or discharges into or from the Project Facilities'. With also monitoring our water consumption by using efficient equipment or technology.

Every year we put together and work toward objectives that will foster improvements to our environment management system.

Augus Surrey

Angus Murray Chief Executive January 2025