Environmental & Sustainability Policy

NOTE: This is a CONTROLLED Document.
Policies are reviewed annually and in line with any regulatory requirements, changes in law or business amendments. Please note that the online version is the only version that is maintained. Any printed copies should, therefore, be viewed as 'uncontrolled' and as such, may not necessarily contain the latest updates and amendments.

1. Statement of policy

Avensys UK Ltd recognises that its activities impact upon the environment both through its routine internal operations, its infrastructure development, and through its influence and effects on the wider community.

It acknowledges a responsibility for, and a commitment to, protection of the environment at all levels and is committed to retaining ISO accreditation to 14001:2015 environmental standards and compliance obligations.

2. To Whom Does the Policy Apply?

The policy applies to all Avensys UK Ltd activities both internally ('on-site') and externally ('off-site').

3. Commitments

- Avensys UK Ltd will comply fully with environmental legislation and is in addition committed to continued efforts to:

Increase awareness of environmental awareness, responsibilities among employees; promote responsibility for the environment within the company, communicating and implement this policy at all levels working towards continual improvement. We will identify, assess, and control environmental aspects related to our operations to minimise any impact on the environment.

- Minimise and prevent pollution and develop and operate environmentally sound waste management procedures.
- Conservation of the diversity, distinctiveness and beauty of nature and the landscape as well as biodiversity (ecosystems, biodiversity, habitats) through sustainable use of nature and its resources.
- reduce the use of energy, water, and other resources.
- minimise waste by reduction in resource consumption, re-use, and recycling schemes where resources to meet policy requirements are fulfilled.
- comply with all relevant environmental legislation/regulations.
- Be proactive and responsible; provide appropriate awareness training, information, advice, and guidance for employees and encourage them to be active, participate and make recommendations.

4. Action Points:

- Legal – as a minimum, meet statutory requirements of environmental regulations and standards to which we subscribe.
- Recycle and use of recycled material – Endeavour to recycle and re-use any materials possible and use environmentally friendly products where possible.

- Waste Management – We will endeavour to minimise waste product wherever possible and make sure waste materials are disposed of in an environmentally safe manner and in accordance with regulations.

- Suppliers – To work in partnership with suppliers and customers to ensure best practice is followed for supply of goods and services.
- Energy – Avensys UK Ltd will endeavour to manage all energy and water supplies to obtain consumption through management initiatives. Avensys UK Ltd will also endeavour to cut vehicle emissions by encouraging the use of public transport and vehicle sharing where possible.

4.1. Waste Pollution

Minimise waste pollution, develop, and operate environmentally sound waste management procedures across all company sites.

Avensys UK Ltd, like many similar organisations, produces a significant amount of waste material during daily business. Our aim is to reduce the amount of waste being produced; by means of proper and harmless recycling of the waste generated and environmentally sound disposal.
We aim to recycle waste products where practicable; develop procedures and preventive measures to ensure all waste is disposed of according to environmental and legal requirements.

- monitor waste management
- Promote the recycling facilities on site for staff and visitors to recycle glass, cans, paper, cardboard, and composting.
- Consider the production of waste materials when formulating purchasing policies and procedures e.g., disposables.
- Identify any wastes which are hazardous and ensure they are segregated for waste streams or replaced with a non-hazardous product.
- Ensure that all WEEE regulated equipment is managed by environmental waste management companies using ethical waste streams.

4.2 Fossil Fuels

Attempt to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels and to incorporate long term strategies for energy efficiency into planning and development.

To reduce the consumption of fossil fuels Avensys UK Ltd will need to produce and adhere to the Carbon Reduction Plan. This plan will enable a planned approach to ensure the sites are as energy efficient as possible and any works undertaken on the site takes environmental issues into consideration.

Protection against environmental pollution, in particular protection of the air, soil, and water, by avoiding as far as possible the generation of greenhouse gas emissions.

- Encourage employees and visitors to be energy-aware and to reduce consumption when practicable.
- Utilise energy efficient lighting where possible.

- Ensure plant & equipment is properly maintained to aid efficient operation.
- Where possible through careful planning and administration, employ 'lift sharing' to minimise road mileage (and thus, fuel usage).
- Conduct regular audit of transport bills and emissions, energy bills, utilities, reviewing performance data for inefficiencies and costs.

4.3 Water Consumption

Reduce Water Consumption

Water shortages and hosepipe bans are becoming more frequent, indeed there are very few summers that pass without local water boards issuing warnings and emergency measures. Here at Avensys UK Ltd we can adopt several methods to minimise our consumption.

- Ensure all taps are fitted with the correct washers so that they do not drip constantly.
- Ensure all taps are repaired promptly should they become faulty.
- 'End of Day' checks are to include ensuring all taps are turned off.
- Conduct regular audit of water bills, reviewing performance data for inefficiencies and costs.

4.4 Purchasing Policy

Avensys UK Ltd promotes a purchasing policy which will give preference, as far as practical, to those products and services which cause the least harm to the environment whereby we aim to.

- Reduce waste.
- Lower our carbon footprint
- Build supply chain resilience.
- Improve delivery efficiencies in supplier monitoring, ensuring continuity of supply.

Purchasers will be encouraged to:

- Ask if the purchase is necessary (reduce consumption).
- Consider ‘whole life’ costs, including disposal when assessing equipment for purchase.
- Wherever practical purchase goods and services which may be manufactured, used, and disposed of in an environmentally responsible way.
- Where items are of similar cost, try to give preference to those that are manufactured with high a recycled content.
- Wherever practical specify items that can be recycled or re-used.
- Wherever practical use suppliers that are committed to environmental improvement in requesting completion of supplier surveys for company approvals.
- Identify risk and opportunities in the supply chain of products supplied to the company and work to mitigate or use as appropriate.
- Wherever practical work with the community at large to progress environmental initiatives and exchange best practice.

- Promulgate and encourage the use of new technology where it has sustainable benefits or other business improvement benefits to the company.

4.5 Work Environment

The grounds and buildings at Avensys UK Ltd have significance to the environment. This must be taken into consideration when formulating the way, we do things.

- Wherever possible use environmentally friendly pesticides and natural fertilisers.
- Use pesticides only when necessary and only if there is no danger to wildflowers/plants or wild animals.
- Ensure that materials used on the buildings are from sustainable sources.
- Replace any fixture and fittings with environmentally friendly material as and when required.
- Comply with environment legislation and officially approved codes of practice helping to prevent breaches of such legislation.
- As far as possible arrange for the reuse or recycling of office waste, including paper, computer supplies and redundant equipment.
- Reduce the office energy consumption, by purchasing energy efficient equipment and good housekeeping.
- Include a copy of our Environmental & Sustainability Policy in all our proposals to clients.

Avensys UK Ltd should endeavour to comply with all Environment Legislation.

- Always use professional contractors and consultants to ensure legal requirements are observed.
- Be alert to new and amended legislation through trade & national press.

4.6 Environmental Resource Management

Efficient and environmentally sound use of natural resources, such as energy, raw materials, fresh water, air, which are the basis of our daily life and prosperity.

Utilise where possible, materials emanating from sustainable resources while conducting its development, administrative, commercial, and social activities.

Sustainable energy or renewable energy therefore incorporates both the type of resource and the suitable use of energy resources. In time Avensys UK Ltd could benefit from renewable energy such as Solar power.

Examples of sustainable materials would include:

- products with identified recycled content.
- materials harvested from sustainable managed sources.

- Products manufactured with resource-efficient processes including reducing energy consumption, minimising waste (recycled, recyclable and or source reduced product packaging.
- Material that can be easily dismantled and reused or recycled at the end of their useful life.
- Products enclosed in recycled or recyclable packaging.
- Materials that are longer lasting or are comparable to conventional products.