environment

Allstate Northern Ireland

Environmental Strategy 2013



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Introduction

The following document contains the Allstate NI Strategy for the management of the environmental impacts of conducting our business. The report includes our overall environmental policy and strategy and statement of environmental impact and our energy, waste minimization and environmental procurement policy. It also includes environmental objectives and targets for along with our environmental performance against these measures since 2007 where available.





Allstate NI Environmental Strategy

ANI accepts an obligation to comply with all relevant legislation and minimise its impact upon the environment. In recognition of this, we have implemented an environmental management system that focuses on:

seeking to conserve natural energy sources and to help limit greenhouse gas emissions; water conservation to help preserve this natural resource;

engaging in responsible waste management to limit our impact on landfill sites, resource consumption and greenhouse gas emissions while encouraging large-scale recycling;

aiming to improve overall air quality by minimizing the consumption of fossil fuels and reducing harmful emissions, airborne pollutants, traffic and parking congestion;

Raising awareness of environmental matters amongst our employees.

The company is situated across three locations, Belfast, Derry and Strabane. There is an Environmental Committee made up of volunteers from the staff. The committee reports to a senior manager and holds regular meetings, during which checks and reviews are carried out to ensure the environmental management system remains effective.

All Environmental strategic and performance based measures (such as recycling statistics and any energy saving initiatives) are communicated to staff via monthly newsletters and company wide emails.

We aim to continuously improve our environmental performance through the support and involvement of all employees and any other interested parties.



Statement of Environmental Impacts

Full environmental impacts are listed in our last environmental review, carried out in conjunction with the Arena Network.

In summary, our main raw materials are computer electronics, stationary (including paper) and human resources. We make every effort to implement environmentally friendly processes for our employees to use. Examples are double sided printing of documents, reuse of computers, a recycling programme for employee used paper, plastic, cans and a cycle to work scheme to encourage non-use of cars for commuting.

We partner with our managing agents for our shared multi-occupancy buildings to identify ways where we can impact reductions in waste to landfill, electricity and water usage.

Green Transport Policy

Our Green Transport Policy is available on the company internet site.

Energy Policy

Allstate NI are committed to the responsible management of the businesses energy needs by minimising expenditure and environmental impact.

The energy policy will be implemented through the following actions:

- Overall responsibility will rest with the Managing Director;
- Day-to-day energy management responsibilities have been assigned to the HR Manager and the Senior Accountant;
- The environmental committee will meet regularly to review progress, plan initiatives and prepare employee newsletters;
- Consumption of electricity and oil will be monitored carefully and any unusually high usage will be investigated and corrected;
- Each year realistic energy reduction targets will be set and monitored regularly;
- Regular awareness initiatives for colleagues will be held to emphasise the cost and environmental benefits of saving energy and water and how to avoid waste;
- Energy saving information will be provided to catering and cleaning staff;
- Energy efficiency will be considered in the purchase of all new equipment, e.g. computers, catering appliances etc.

This Energy Policy will be reviewed at least annually.



an annual energy report for the Managing Director and for publication on the company website and



Waste Minimization Policy

Allstate Northern Ireland's Waste Minimization Policy establishes a framework within which the company will incorporate waste minimization and management into its overall environmental management system. Moreover, this Policy aims to encourage a transition to practices in the selection and use of materials that, to the degree practicable, eliminates waste in Allstate's facilities.

The waste minimization Policy will be implemented through the following actions:

- Minimize the use of consumables;
- Recycle all materials that are generated as a consequence of conducting our business;
- · Reduce and/or reuse packaging were possible and influence suppliers to reduce packaging for example on computer products purchased;
- Work with our catering providers to reduce and/or recycle any food waste products;
- Continue to recycle and/or repair older computers, photocopiers and faxes etc.

This waste minimization policy will be reviewed at least annually.

Environmental Procurement Policy

The aim Allstate Northern Ireland's Environmental Purchasing Policy is to prompt staff involved in the procurement of goods and services to use environmental responsibility as a factor in their purchasing decisions. In particular for them to:

- consider goods and services which can be manufactured, used and disposed of in an environmentally responsible way;
- give preference, where items are of a similar cost, to those that are manufactured with a high recycled content;
- specify items that can be recycled or reused;
- consider the energy usage/cost of operating equipment prior to purchase;
- favour suppliers that are committed to environmental improvement especially in the area of transatlantic travel:
- consider 'whole life' costs and impacts when assessing equipment for purchase.
- Specifically, the company's procurement process owners will:
- circulate agreements that offer environmentally friendly alternatives;
- carry out an environmental assessment of the company's major suppliers;
- provide best practice advice on environmental issues relating to purchasing.

Environmental Targets and Performance Against Targets

The following section provides details on the objectives and performance against these targets to date:-

Travel

We will continue to monitor business related travel and seek innovate ways to reduce travel where possible by ensuring the latest technological methods are offered to replace unnecessary travel. This will be carried out with a clear understanding that in order to grow the business, travel is likely to increase as travellers visit the US to transition work. As we grew significantly during 2010 the metrics will be subsequently reflect increased travel.

Our main travel methods that generate fossil fuels are interoffice travel primarily carried out by car and transatlantic travel from Ireland to Chicago in aeroplanes.

Our main objective is to use suppliers for transatlantic travel who can demonstrate better environmental commitment through their operations. Through our procurement policy we will commit to using airlines that can demonstrate better commitment through their carbon reduction objectives2.

The table below shows the current rates of business travel:

Total Business Travel Miles				
Year	Total Miles per year	Total Employees all sites	Miles per Employee	
2007	2,687,070	1,575	1706.07	
2008	2,048,228	1,476	1387.68 1	
2009	2,652,758	1,607	1650.75	
2010	4,302,802.5	1,892	2274.20	
2011	2,670,938	1,968	1357.18	
2012	3,886.058	2,092	1857.58	

We have obtained copies of our main transatlantic carriers environmental policies.

In addition to the efforts made in reducing miles travelled through business activities the company has introduced a remote working policy. The company has also an formal approval process in which all employees must state a valid business reason for travelling and seek senior management sign off.



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Recycling

As part of our waste minimization policy we will try to reduce the overall amount of packaging and paper usage including the amount of paper recycled and increase the amount of recycled plastic and grey materials. We will work with the ARENA Network and continually measure and monitor the amount recycle and how much waste we dispose on each year.

 As stated in our environmental impact our aim is to reduce and reuse consumables such as computer equipment where it is possible. Our objective is continue to repair computers where possible and ensure that any used hardware is recycled. In addition where possible we will procure equipment from those suppliers who can demonstrate better supplier performance with regard to recycled components and environmental supply chain management.

We have obtained figures for waste sent to landfill from Belfast City Council for the whole 9 Lanyon Place building. Our aim is to work with other occupants in the building to reduce waste to landfill.

Supplier Environmental Performance

Where available Allstate NI will collect environmental performance data on key suppliers. Information has already been compiled on our catering suppliers, and relevant airlines. Information will also be collected from our current computer hardware suppliers.

Allstate NI will work with our catering provider to enable the Manager on site to increase the amount of material recycled. This will include food waste, grey, can and plastics. We will also work with Mount Charles to reduce the number of deliveries to our Belfast site.

Water Usage

Allstate NI commenced the measurement of water in 2010 used for the whole of the 9 Lanyon Place, Belfast building. Our aim is to work with other occupants in the building to reduce water usage. In 2012 we consumed 4.96 metres cubed per employee. We have seen a gradual reduction in our water consumption over the last 4 years. In 2012 we became the first Northern Ireland 'Water Champion' accredited by the Consumer Council..

Environmental Impact Awareness

We aim to have focus on the following areas:-

- 1. Recycling both in work and at home by developing a PowerPoint animation for display on the company plasma screens;
- 2. Sustainable transport for travelling to work through promoting the green transport policy;
- 3. Update the guide for employees as to what methods of sustainable energy can be used in the average household. This will include ways that colleagues can gain government grants etc;
- 4. Publish details of the company's performance against our environmental performance on the company plasma screens. This will be linked to ways in which our colleagues can impact climate change through behaviour change in the workplace such as turning off lights etc.

NI BITC Benchmarking Survey Performance

Allstate NI will continue to work with the ARENA Networking Survey to allow continuous improvement and to allow us to measure and monitor key environmental impact areas.

Electricity Usage

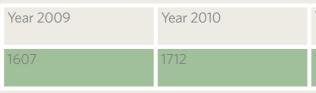
Allstate NI has moved to 100% of electricity used to sustainable sources in 2011. This is the equivalent of all of the electricity used in the Belfast Office. Allstate NI's target with regard to electricity usage was to reduce the per person usage by 5%. In 2012 we exceeded this and reduced per person usage in kWh by 6% per employee.

We will continue to monitor electricity efficiency using the ESB Electric Ireland analysis tool. As air conditioning is one of the largest contributors to energy usage we will continue to strive for efficient use using the Building Management System which we installed last year.

We will also consult with our employees to determine innovative methods for reducing our electricity usage.

Total Energy Usage

Our total energy usage over recent years is shown in the table below The table below shows total energy usage per KWH per employee:-



We intend to develop this measure in the forthcoming year. Specifically we would like to develop how we report the usage figures. We aim to reduce the total energy usage for the company in the forthcoming year.

Fuel Oil Usage

Where heating oil is used we aim to improve efficiencies in this area. With specific regard to heating oil, Allstate NI will seek to determine efficiencies between air con and heating oil. Where appropriate we will engage expertise from industry in our analysis.



Year 2011	Year 2012
1706	1590

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