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## Environmental Policy Statement for Ecospheric Ltd

At Ecospheric, we are committed to driving sustainability and advancing decarbonisation in the built environment. We provide a range of specialised services in low-energy building design and building services design, Passivhaus, EnerPHit, and AECB Carbonlite certification, net zero compliance, and heritage building retrofit, all aimed at reducing environmental impact, improving building performance, and supporting the UK's transition to net-zero. Our goal is to deliver environmentally responsible, energy-efficient, and high-performance buildings, while promoting innovation in sustainable design and building practices.

This policy outlines our commitment to environmental stewardship and our strategies for integrating environmental considerations into all aspects of our business, including design consultancy, certification services, building physics analysis, and research initiatives.

### 1. Commitment to Environmental Sustainability

We are dedicated to reducing the environmental impact of building design and construction through comprehensive, science-based approaches and innovative solutions. Our environmental commitments include:

- **Passivhaus & Low-Energy Building Design:** As a core service offering, we specialise in designing buildings that meet the stringent energy performance standards of Passivhaus and other low-energy building frameworks. These designs reduce energy demand, enhance indoor comfort and occupant health, and contribute to lower carbon footprints throughout the lifecycle of buildings.
- **Building Physics and Performance Modelling:** Our technical services—such as dynamic thermal modelling (DSM), lifecycle carbon analysis, thermal bridge modelling, and hygrothermal analysis—enable us to predict, measure, and optimise energy efficiency and moisture risk in building designs. This ensures that buildings are not only energy-efficient but also healthy, durable, and resilient.
- **Energy Assessments for Compliance and Certification:** We provide energy performance assessments, including SAP assessments, Part O reports for building regulations compliance, and Energy Performance Certificates (EPCs). These services ensure that our

clients meet legal requirements while achieving optimal energy performance for their buildings.

- **Net Zero and Carbon Compliance:** Through specialised support for Net Zero Carbon strategies, including NHS Net Zero Carbon Building Standard certification, and the development of Net Zero Carbon/Carbon Budget Statements, we assist clients in aligning their buildings with the highest standards for carbon neutrality.
- **Heritage and Listed Building Retrofit:** We offer expert support for the retrofit and restoration of listed and heritage buildings, including submissions for listed building consent, heritage repair method statements, and energy-efficient retrofit strategies that preserve the historic value of buildings while reducing their environmental impact.
- **Research & Innovation:** We actively contribute to advancing knowledge in sustainable building practices through research collaborations with the University of Liverpool. Our ongoing work includes developing comprehensive retrofit methodologies for historic buildings, researching sustainable materials like lime mortars, and producing academic papers that contribute to the wider built environment industry. We also present our research at conferences to foster the exchange of ideas and promote innovative practices.

## 2. Compliance with Legal and Regulatory Requirements

We are committed to meeting all relevant environmental laws, regulations, and industry standards. This includes compliance with the latest building codes, energy performance standards, and sustainability certifications. We work closely with clients to ensure that all projects adhere to legal requirements while maximising environmental benefits.

## 3. Continuous Improvement and Innovation

At Ecospheric, we understand that environmental sustainability requires continuous effort and innovation. Our commitment to improvement is reflected in the following:

- **Ongoing Environmental Management System (EMS) Review:** We regularly evaluate and update our EMS to ensure it aligns with industry standards, identifies opportunities for improvement, and reflects the latest developments in sustainable building design and energy efficiency technologies.
- **Staff Training and Development:** We provide our team with regular training on emerging environmental issues, energy-efficient design principles, building regulations, and innovative technologies. This ensures that our staff are equipped with the knowledge and skills to deliver cutting-edge, sustainable building solutions.
- **Collaborative Innovation:** We actively collaborate with academic institutions, industry groups, and stakeholders to drive forward new methodologies and solutions in energy-efficient design, building retrofit, and net-zero carbon strategies.

## 4. Client and Stakeholder Engagement

We recognise that effective environmental management requires strong collaboration with our clients, partners, and stakeholders. Our approach to client engagement includes:

- **Collaborating with Clients to Define Sustainability Goals:** We work closely with our clients to understand their environmental objectives, provide tailored solutions, and integrate sustainability goals into every phase of the project—from design to certification.
- **Providing Expert Guidance:** Our consultancy services are designed to help clients navigate complex sustainability and compliance requirements. We offer expert advice on Passivhaus certification, AECB Carbonlite certification, and other industry-leading standards, as well as on energy performance, carbon reduction, and heritage building retrofit.
- **Transparent Reporting and Performance Metrics:** We provide clients with clear, data-driven reports that assess the environmental performance of their buildings, including energy consumption forecasts, whole life carbon calculations, and recommendations for meeting net-zero targets.

## 5. Specific Goals and Targets

We have established the following measurable environmental goals to guide our operations and ensure continuous progress in our sustainability efforts:

- **Energy Efficiency:** Achieve a minimum of 30% reduction in energy demand for all new building designs, using Passivhaus principles and other low-energy standards, compared to conventional building practices. For retrofits, we aim for a reduction of a minimum 80% energy demand when compared to the baseline.
- **Carbon Emissions:** Provide a roadmap for all clients to achieve net-zero carbon emissions for their buildings through a combination of energy-efficient design and renewable energy integrations.
- **Heritage Building Retrofit:** Increase the number of heritage building retrofits certified as EnerPHit or AECB Retrofit, while preserving their historical integrity, by 20% over the next three years.
- **Research Impact:** Contribute to at least three significant research projects or publications per year related to sustainable building design, historic building retrofit, and net-zero carbon practices.

## 6. Responsibilities and Accountability

Environmental sustainability is a shared responsibility at Ecospheric. All employees are responsible for supporting the implementation of this policy, while senior leadership ensures the necessary resources and strategic direction to meet our environmental goals. Our staff are encouraged to participate in identifying new opportunities for sustainability improvements and sharing best practices.

## 7. Communication and Review

We are committed to open communication about our environmental policy and performance. This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it reflects our current practices and the evolving landscape of sustainable building design. All stakeholders, including clients, partners, and regulatory bodies, will be informed of any changes, ensuring that our environmental goals remain aligned with best practices and industry standards.

## Rationale Behind the Policy Elements

- Energy Efficiency and Low-Carbon Design:** By integrating energy-efficient building design principles like Passivhaus, the consultancy reduces the operational energy consumption of buildings, which is a key contributor to a building's overall environmental impact. This aligns with the UK's efforts to reduce carbon emissions in the built environment.
- Compliance and Legal Framework:** Adherence to relevant laws and building codes ensures that the consultancy is not only meeting mandatory requirements but is also keeping pace with emerging standards in sustainability. This reinforces credibility and fosters trust among clients.
- Continuous Improvement:** This environmental policy is based on the concept of continuous improvement. Regular reviews of the EMS allow the consultancy to assess its current environmental impact and identify further opportunities for reducing resource use, improving energy efficiency, and minimising waste.
- Client Collaboration:** Engaging clients from the outset ensures that sustainability goals are embedded in the design process. This collaborative approach increases the likelihood of

successful environmental outcomes and demonstrates the consultancy's proactive approach to sustainability.

5. **Setting Specific Goals:** Clear, measurable targets like energy reduction, carbon neutrality, and waste reduction give the consultancy concrete goals to work toward. This not only helps in driving performance but also in providing transparent metrics for clients to track progress.
6. **Accountability:** Assigning responsibility across all levels of the organization ensures that environmental objectives are integrated into the culture of the consultancy. It also means that everyone understands their role in achieving the company's sustainability targets.

By embedding these principles in the company's policy, Ecospheric Ltd commits to being a responsible, forward-thinking leader in the field of sustainable building design, setting the stage for long-term environmental and business success.