

Willans LLP | solicitors

C2S Sustainability Focus

28 January 2022

Hannah Wall Senior Associate Solicitor & Chair of Green Committee



A bit about Willans LLP



We have a solid reputation for providing first-class legal advice, high-calibre yet approachable lawyers, and exceptional client care to businesses, charities and not-for-profit organisations and people.

We act for local, national and overseas clients from our Cheltenham offices.

561+

99% of clients surveyed would recommend 1947 the year our cheltenham law firm was established

3 'LEADING INDIVIDUAL' LAWYERS IN THE LEGAL 500



www.willans.co.uk



- Introduction to Willans' Green Committee
- Aims of Green Committee
- Examples of recent "green" projects
- Future plans
- Tips/what we have learnt to date

Introduction to Green Committee

- 9 members from all areas of the firm
- Re-established 2019
- Monthly meetings (currently on Teams)
- Report to equity partners

Green Committee aims...

- To review the firm's operations from banking to pensions and supply chains to transport and determine where changes can be made.
- To research and propose new ideas for actions to improve the firm's sustainability credentials.
- To communicate the Committee's aims and encourage behaviour change amongst staff.
- To work with local businesses and institutions (and eventually clients) to share best practice.

Successful projects to date

Sharing regular green tips & 12 Days of Christmas

Green corner

② This month we are breaking down some key sustainability jargon on what it means to be green.

GREEN TIP: GREEN JARGON BUSTER

- Net zero: reducing greenhouse gas emissions to balance the emissions produced and those removed from the atmosphere.
- Carbon neutral: balancing greenhouse gases by "offsetting" the equivalent amount of carbon without the
- requirement to reduce any emissions.
 Carbon offsetting: any activity that compensates for the emission of carbon dioxide or other greenhouse gases by
- dioxide or other greenhouse gases by providing for an emission reduction elsewhere, eg carbon capture or treeplanting schemes.

@ Willans are now signed up to the CheltenhamZero agreement, a pledge by Cheltenham Businesses to be carbon neutral by 2030.

If you'd like to join the Willans' Green Committee and help us on our journey to carbon neutrality, contact Hannah Wall.

 A reminder that you can now recycle your unwanted cables and flexes as well as dead batteries here in the office. Please put them in the relevant boxes provided in the post room and we will recycle them for you!

willans Green corner @ 12 days of a green Christmas Look out for the green committee's daily aday 1 December 2021 tips on how to have a greener Christmas. Here's one of the most recent: On the fourth day of Christmas, the Green committee gave to me... a way to green committee gave to me... a way to keep the kids busy and use up all of that Amazon brown packaging paper. CRUNCH & RECYCLE tie it up with string to keep th

Green corner

@ The firm is switching to Bulb electricity this month - the "UK's biggest green energy supplier". 100% of Bulb's electricity



comes from renewable sources (you can read more about it <u>here</u>).

@ This month's green tip is more of a simple reminder of how to become more 'green minded' in everyday life (courtesy of artist/designer <u>Sarah Lazarovic).</u>



THE BUYERARCHY of NEEDS (with apologies to maclow)

Successful projects to date

- Signatory to Cheltenham Borough Council's "CheltenhamZero" campaign
- Engaged "Go Climate Positive" to calculate firm's carbon footprint and put a carbon reduction strategy in place
- Instructed Ethical Investors to review pension scheme and advise on alternative options
- Switched to renewable energy provider
- In-house battery and cable recycling + Terra Cycle

What's next?

A wish list...

- Renewable energy solar
- Transport EVs via salary sacrifice + charging
- Eliminate waste
- Sustainable supply chain
- Carbon neutral by 2025
- Nurture nature
- Community; "think global, act local".

Tips / what we have learnt to date

- Sort out lines of communication to decision makers to keep momentum going.
- Communication generally is crucial if all employees and stakeholders are to support aims.
- Examples, internal newsletter, intranet, email campaigns and competitions.
- Set goals that are SMART.
- Be aware of green washing. Do what you say you will.
- Celebrate each success, no matter how small.

Hannah Wall

Senior Associate Solicitor & Chair of Green Committee

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Follow our journey by connecting with me on LinkedIn and our news: @WillansLLP (Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn).

CONTACT US

When you want the best outcome, you need the best people.

COMMUNICATE

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Disclaimer: Please note that this is for guidance only and is not intended to replace legal advice. Please contact us if you need our assistance. We'd be delighted to help.

