

The Institution of Agricultural Engineers

Environmental & Sustainable Development Statement

The IAgRE recognises that sustainable development (meeting the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs) is central to the agricultural and land-based engineering sector and that IAgRE and the profession it serves must organise themselves accordingly.

IAgRE is the professional body for engineers, scientists, technologists and managers in agricultural and allied land-based industries, including forestry, food engineering and technology, amenity, renewable energy, horticulture and the environment. IAgRE is a founder constituent body of the Society for the Environment (SocEnv), an umbrella body for those professionals active in the field of sustainable development.

The IAgRE recognises the vital role played by its members in identifying the needs of society and devising and delivering solutions that are affordable and meet society's aspirations. In fulfilling this role the membership contribute to economic growth, to environmental protection and to improved quality of life.

The IAgRE equally recognises the need both to protect and enhance the environment and to use resources in a sustainable way that minimises any disadvantage to future generations. To achieve these objectives requires solutions which strike an informed balance in terms of cost, benefits,

sustainability and acceptability within the broader legislative framework, and involves an evaluation of Whole Life Costs.

All grades of membership are required to develop and maintain a high standard of sustainability awareness and to continuously improve sustainability performance within their professional activities.

The IAgRE requires that every member should understand, foster and promote the concepts of sustainable development and the need to work towards an appropriate balance between environmental, social and economic factors.

This includes:

- promotion of a continuing improvement in the sustainability of design, construction and maintenance within the land-based and agricultural industries enhancing the natural environment,
- an understanding of the concepts of sustainability and inter related social, economic and environmental issues,
- formulation, promotion and dissemination of views on sustainability issues associated with the land-based and agricultural industries,

The Institution of Agricultural Engineers

- regular case histories of good practice should be collated and disseminated by the IAgRE through its Landwards journal, newsletters, technical meetings, lectures and conferences.

In carrying out these activities, the IAgRE engages with Government, public authorities, other institutions and societies (in particular SocEnv), the general public and other bodies and organisations in the UK and internationally.

To further the aims of this statement, the Institution:

- actively supports and assists its members in delivering this policy,
- develops strategic alliances with other organisations with an interest in land-based, agricultural industries, the natural environment and sustainable development.

As a corporate body, its own sustainability performance is continually monitored and action is taken to enhance this performance.

Environmental best practice is being implemented by the secretariat at a local level. Specifically:

1. Understanding and minimising, the impacts of IAgRE activities on the environment and on the local community.
2. Compliance with relevant environmental legislation and adoption of current standards of best practice.
3. Continual review of environmental goals and the setting of appropriate targets and objectives to reduce its impact.
4. The efficient use of energy and natural resources including minimising waste and

encouraging effective re-use and recycling where appropriate.

5. Reduce environmental impact through the use of appropriate IT Systems to remove the need for travel.
6. Minimising the environmental impacts of our current and future office through good specification and design whilst supporting their primary function.
7. Working with suppliers and contractors to promote approaches to product sourcing and management that minimise adverse environmental impacts.
8. Encourage the minimization of greenhouse gas emissions through improved technology and good practice.
9. Raising awareness of environmental issues and training of staff in best practice in order to ensure effective resource use.
10. Engaging with members to promote and share matters of environmental significance.

Updated – November 2024