

Biodiversity Policy

1. Policy Statement

At Techrete, we recognise the vital importance of biodiversity to the health of our planet, our communities, and our operations. We are committed to protecting and enhancing biodiversity through our activities, managing our environmental impacts responsibly, and promoting ecological sustainability as part of our overall approach to environmental stewardship.

A demonstration of our commitment to biodiversity at our premises both in Ireland and the UK is the maturing of thousands of trees around our perimeters, planted many years ago to encourage flora and fauna to flourish.

A population of hare thrives at our Dublin facility and our storage pond, used for the recycling of water, is regularly inhabited by ducks and swans for much of the year, whilst a large wildflower meadow at our Brigg facility attracts numerous species of pollinators and other important insects, as well as birds and small mammals.

2. Scope

This policy applies to all Techrete operations, sites, employees, contractors, and supply chain partners. It also extends to any projects, developments, or activities where we have direct control or significant influence.

3. Objectives

We aim to:

- Prevent, minimise, and mitigate harm to biodiversity in all areas of our operation.
- Promote the conservation and restoration of natural habitats and ecosystems.
- Integrate biodiversity considerations into planning, procurement, design, construction, and maintenance processes.
- Comply with all applicable environmental and biodiversity-related legislation, regulations, and industry best practices.
- Support biodiversity net gain where feasible.
- Raise awareness and provide training to employees on biodiversity issues.
- Engage with stakeholders, local communities, and environmental organisations to support biodiversity initiatives.

4. Commitments

To meet these objectives, we commit to:

- **Conducting Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs)** for the Balbriggan and Brigg manufacturing facilities to identify and mitigate potential biodiversity risks.
- **Protecting and enhancing local biodiversity** at our sites, including promoting native species and avoiding the use of invasive species.



- **Managing land and green spaces responsibly**, including the reduction of pesticide and herbicide use and improving green infrastructure.
- **Reducing pollution**, waste, and carbon emissions to limit indirect effects on biodiversity.
- **Collaborating** with regulators, NGOs, and local communities to support biodiversity conservation.
- **Monitoring and reporting** on biodiversity performance and continuous improvement opportunities.

5. Responsibilities

- The CEO is responsible for the overall implementation of this policy.
- All managers must ensure biodiversity considerations are integrated into relevant processes and decisions.
- All employees and contractors are expected to follow this policy and report any activities that could negatively impact biodiversity.

6. Monitoring and Review

We will regularly monitor our performance against this policy through audits, site inspections, and biodiversity assessments. This policy will be reviewed annually or in response to significant changes in operations, legislation, or best practice.



Aidan Williamson
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 16.06.26





Environmental and Energy Management Policy

Techrete is a leading company in the design, manufacture and installation of architectural precast cladding. We promote sustainability both in the design and function of our products and in the processes used in their manufacture. We work so that our choices today will not limit choices of others tomorrow and protect the environment from harm and degradation arising from our activities and products. Our environmental and energy management system supports this policy and provides the framework for setting and reviewing objectives and targets. It is our objective to continue to meet the requirements of ISO 14001:2015 environmental management standard and ISO 50001: 2018 energy management standard. Underlying our commitments below is our target to have Net Zero Carbon emissions by 2030.

Techrete Senior Management Have Committed To:

- Keep fully informed of all relevant legislation, regulations and other requirements within the industry and monitor our operations to ensure compliance.
- Meet all regulatory requirements pertaining to our business.
- Operate a thoughtful buying policy, giving preference to materials and equipment from sustainable sources, with minimal packaging and procure products, processes and services which are less damaging to the environment.
- Encourage continual improvement in all our activities and practices to enhance environmental performance.
- Work with all employees, subcontractors, suppliers and clients to encourage environmental awareness and sustainability and to identify and to share best practice and ways of reducing negative environmental impacts.
- Protect the environment and actively prevent pollution to the land, water and the atmosphere.
- Consider environmental aspects, where applicable, in the design of our product.
- Monitor and reduce our consumption of electricity, gas, diesel and materials in order to minimise waste and CO₂ emissions from our factories in Balbriggan and Brigg and our design office in Leicester.
- Set clear annual targets for CO₂ emission reductions as we strive for Net Zero Carbon emissions by 2030.
- Avoid creating waste and encourage re-use, recycling and recovery of resources in all company activities.
- Manage our buildings and construction sites in an environmentally sensitive manner.
- Respond positively to environmental initiatives by reviewing such issues with the relevant authorities, local communities and others as appropriate.
- Pursue the use of renewable and alternative energy sources to supplement conventional energy sources.

Techrete management are responsible for implementing the policy and for providing input to the formulation and subsequent modification of the policy. The co-operation of all our employees is sought to enable us to achieve this important objective.



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Green Travel Policy

Techrete is a leading company in the design, manufacture and installation of architectural precast concrete cladding. With staff employed at various sites and offices across locations in the UK and Ireland, we recognise that travel associated with our business has a direct impact on the environment through vehicle emissions, fuel consumption and traffic congestion.

Techrete encourages each employee to consider how they choose to travel to and from work and how they make business journeys during their hours of work.

The specific green travel policies which Techrete are committed to at all levels of the company are:

- To promote green travel policy initiatives and bring them to the attention of all staff.
- To encourage staff to consider the locations of meetings so as to minimise travel distances.
- To promote the use of video conferencing and tele-conferencing to replace work trips. Video conferencing facilities are in place in all of our offices and factories.
- All new and replacement Company cars will be chose based on their environmental impact. Where practicable, electric cars will be purchased or leased.
- EV charge points to be fitted at our Balbriggan and Brigg facilities with charging provided free to employees.
- When flying, booking a taxi or rental car, all Techrete employees must check to make sure there are no other Techrete employees with whom they could share the car so as to minimise the collective distance travelled.
- Where practicable, all staff are encouraged to use public transport for journeys to work or to consider travel by bicycle or foot. A number of our Irish employees have already availed of the 'Bike to Work' scheme.
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Resource Usage Policy

Techrete is a leading company in the design, manufacture and installation of architectural precast concrete cladding. Our commitment to reducing any negative environmental impact of our product includes careful examination of the resources we consume and investigating what consumption can be reduced and which materials can be replaced with a more sustainable alternative. Our approach is commitment to:

Use Sustainable Materials in Our Panels

- 98% of the steel coil used in making cages for our panels is manufactured from locally sourced recycled metals. This steel coil makes up approximately 90% of all steel used in our panels.
- Preference shall be given to suppliers that use materials from sustainable sources and adhere to the principles of ISO 14001, or its equivalent.

Design

- We continue to develop innovative methods and materials that achieve the same high-quality facades with less concrete and therefore, less embodied carbon.
- Through efficient design and constant review of production processes, the volume of concrete used per meter squared of façade coverage is reduced. We are developing a range of high-performance, low-carbon mix formulations which incorporate low carbon cement replacement powders and state-of-the-art chemical admixtures. Our ambition is to produce low carbon solutions in line with current production cycles.
- We are continually reassessing all our mix designs and have developed self-compacting concrete variants of our standard mixes in line with EU recommendations to ensure they are as efficient and environmentally responsible as possible.

Alternative Products

- Our 10-year strategy targets significant reductions in the amount of cement used in each panel. Techrete use partial cement replacement in many of our mixes and we are continuously aiming to increase the proportion of cement replacement in line with European, British and Irish standards.
- Part of our 10-year strategy is to maximise our circular economy. We are currently developing novel products that incorporate waste material, reducing both the quantity of waste that leaves our factories and the quantity of virgin materials we use.

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Responsible Sourcing Policy

Techrete is a leading company in the design, manufacture and installation of architectural precast concrete cladding. We are committed to sourcing our materials and managing our supply chain in the most responsible and sustainable way possible. Our commitment extends from the sourcing of raw materials, through to production and on to supply of our product and ultimate disposal. Our approach is commitment to:

Supply Chain Management

- Through our Quality Management System, certified to ISO 9001, we have a documented system for our purchasing process and approval of suppliers.
- Our Purchasing Policy encompasses the standards of ISO 9001, ISO 45001, ISO 14001, ISO 50001 and BES 6001 when engaging with our suppliers e.g. all our timber is sourced from suppliers that hold a valid FSC and / or PEFC certificate. We maintain a list of suppliers and ensure that they have the necessary controls, processes and management systems in place to allow for the identification and traceability of supplier materials.

Environmental and Energy Management

- Techrete maximises the reduction, recycling and recovery of waste in our operations. We have made significant investment in rainwater harvesting and recycling and in the development of environmentally friendly products and processes.
- Techrete is ISO 50001 (Energy Management) certified and has set clear targets for reductions in energy consumption and CO2 emissions per unit manufactured. Progress is reviewed at weekly meetings by the Energy team members and senior management.
- Techrete is ISO 14001 (Environmental Management) certified and we encourage our supply chain to implement or work towards a third-party certified Environmental Management System.
- We have worked closely with a number of consultancies on life cycle assessments of our products as part of our ongoing aim to identify and minimise any adverse environmental impact of our products.
- We minimise the impact of the transportation of our products by maximising the load capacity ratio for each delivery, thus reducing the number of trucks on the road.

People & Community

- We expect our suppliers and subcontractors to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of employees and any others who may be affected by their activities.
- In addition to its ISO 45001 (Health and Safety Management), Techrete has issued and follows its Code of Business Conduct Policy Statement, its Worksafe Policy and its Smoke & Vape Free Policy Statements.
- Our Safety Management System records all training and qualifications received by our staff and Site sub-contractors and identifies appropriate opportunities for further training and investment.
- We encourage local procurement of materials and labour.
- We have invested in our local community to create a positive relationship with local schools, football teams, recreational activities, Scout Groups, and we are also members of the Lion's Club.



Legal requirements

- We will ensure that all responsible sourcing operations comply with our business codes of conduct and legal requirements through implementing our management systems.

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Transport Policy

Techrete is cognisant of the fact that our precast panels are large bulky items and that the transport of them can have a significant impact on costs, the environment and traffic disturbances. In order to minimise the environmental and social impacts along with costs, Techrete shall:

- Continue to invest in the design of new trailers that allow the transport of larger panels therefore reducing the number of loads needed for a job (Tech Trailers).
- Use GPS tracking on all our trailers to facilitate "Just In Time" deliveries and avoid unnecessary traffic congestion with deliveries booked in at the construction site and communication between the wagon driver and Techrete installation teams allowing wagons to be met and offloaded as they arrive on site.
- Encourage to design panels that will maximise the load capacity for the trailer type specified for each project.
- In seeking to maximise loads, we will not compromise safety in any way and the Loading Criteria set out below will be strictly adhered to.
- We will monitor load to capacity statistics for each job and aim for a 95% load to capacity ratio.
- Stocks will be managed and rotated so that frequency of deliveries from suppliers is minimised. We will aim to reduce the frequency of deliveries of raw materials to monthly.
- To ensure all our contractors attained and are maintaining a FORS (Fleet Operator Recognition Scheme) standard and received accreditation for their fleet.
- Ensure all hauliers are following the Direct Vision Standard and HGV Permit Scheme. Ensure that our hauliers are maintaining their fleet of tractor units and trailers, so is to be safe, to not be causing extra environment, traffic and social disturbances. Ensure that the straps which are provided are fit for purpose and inspected before each use.

When shipping to the UK, we encourage Ro-Ro freight unaccompanied trailers at the docks to the ferry. This reduces the number of trucks on the ferry, which is increasing capacity on the ferry. It also brings more efficiency to our contractors and is more sustainable.



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Waste Management and Recycling Policy

Techrete is a leading company in the design, manufacture and installation of architectural precast concrete cladding. We recognise the impact of the transport, treatment and disposal of wastes on our environment and we are committed to reducing this through continued improvement of our waste management and recycling processes.

Techrete is committed to ensuring the efficient use of materials so as to minimise the environmental impact of its waste. Our approach is commitment to:

Legislation and Best Practice

Techrete manages waste to ensure that it is stored, removed, treated and disposed of accordingly to legislative requirements and the best practicable environmental option.

This includes expectations on any third parties providing relevant supplies or services to Techrete.

Hierarchy of Waste Management

Techrete develop procedures that allow us to manage waste in line with our preferred hierarchy of waste management options, namely:

1. **Waste Minimisation:** Techrete promotes the minimisation of waste produced within our organisation, insofar as is reasonably and economically practicable.
2. **Reuse:** Techrete will, insofar as is reasonably and economically practicable, reuse materials that have not yet reached their end of life.
3. **Recycling:** Our factories segregate waste into seven different waste streams for recycling and treatment – Timber, Steel, Plastic, Insulation, Rubble, Paper and Cardboard, Hazardous Material and Wet Concrete.

Our offices segregate wastes into four different waste streams for recycling and treatment – paper, cans, electrical equipment and mixed wastes.

4. **Disposal:** Where the production of waste is unavoidable, Techrete ensures that transport and disposal process comply with legislation. Providers in close proximity to our factories are chosen so as to minimise transport requirements.

Employee Awareness

Amongst our staff we cultivate an awareness of waste management, waste minimisation and recycling.

Suppliers

Techrete favour suppliers whose materials minimise ecological damage, minimise depletion of non-renewable resources, can be re-used, recycled, refilled, recharged or reconditioned, have recycled content and have low embodied energy.

Techrete management are responsible for implementing this policy and for providing input to the formulation and subsequent modification of the policy. In monitoring performance, waste cost per unit output will be used. The co-operation of all our employees is sought to enable us to achieve this important objective.



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Water Usage Policy

Techrete uses water in the production of precast panels and recognises the impact of this on our environment and we are committed to reducing this impact through continued improvement of our water management and recycling processes. Our approach is commitment to:

Water Treatment & Recycling

- Water used in the etching process shall be treated before reuse. We will target a pH level of 7.0 for treated water with a tolerance of -0.5 to +1.5pH.
- Water and waste concrete produced by our factory will be treated and then pumped back into our factory to be reused. The separated aggregates can be recycled and used as a hard-core type material.
- Each year we will review the proportions of mains and recycled water used with a view to setting targets to increase the proportion of recycled water consumed in the following year. Water consumption will be recorded in litres.

Water Metering and Reporting

- Internal water meters are fitted in both factories to allow us to monitor volumes consumed in processes. Usages will be recorded weekly and reports issued to senior management.
- Monthly reports are issued showing the volumes of water used in the etching and polishing processes per m² finished.
- The proportions of mains water and recycled water consumed since sub meters were fitted in April 2011 will be reported on a monthly basis.

Quality and Maintenance

- Whilst we will look for ways to reduce the proportion of mains water consumed, we will not use recycled water where it could compromise the quality of our product.
- We will not reduce the volumes of water used in our etching or polishing processes below manufacturers' recommendations.

Opportunities

We will continually look for new opportunities or means to reduce our reliance on mains water. Techrete management are responsible for implementing this policy and for providing input into the formulation and subsequent modification of this policy. The co-operation of all employees is sought to enable us to achieve this important object



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