

Bates Office
Green Paper 2021
The House of Sustainability



Bates Office

2021

Welcome to the House of Sustainability...

Bates Office's 2021 Green Paper highlights all the good things we have done, and continue to do, for the environment, society, and our communities. This paper will discuss how we can help you to achieve your sustainability goals.

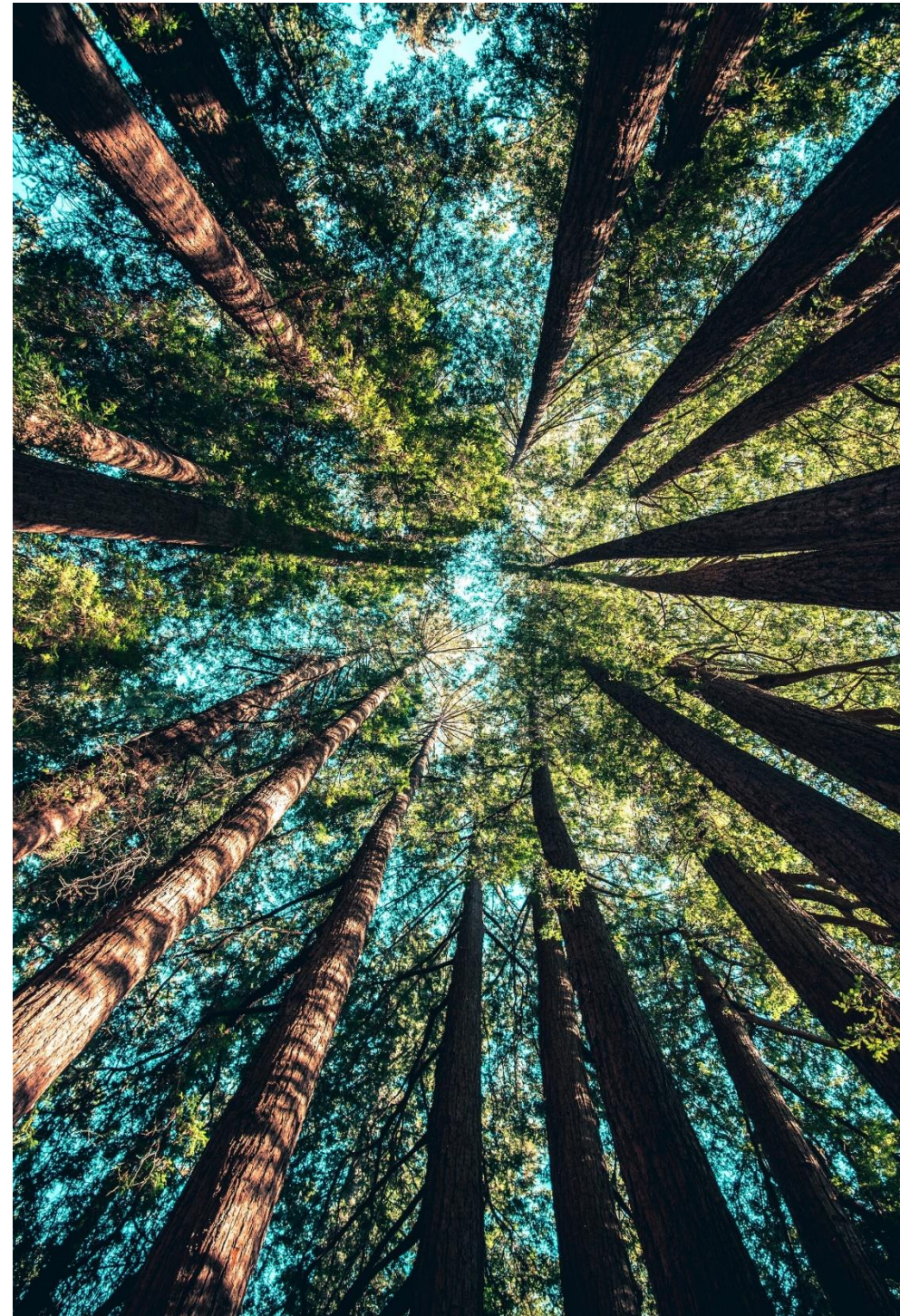
Our environmental and social responsibilities have grown as we have. We do things as we believe they are the right thing to do, not because to make us look good.

As increasingly more organisations are capitalising on infrastructure, Bates are focusing on investing in our environment and 'closing the loop'.

Our success as a company is a result of a cohesive workforce, relentless desire to improve, and our unwavering values. Bates is company with a purpose beyond profit.

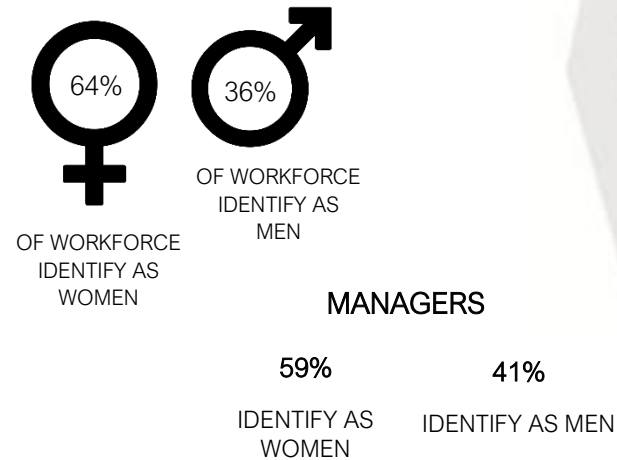
Our sustainability initiatives and offerings set us apart from our competition. We do not obsess over growth at any costs. Instead, we prioritise a balanced, distributive system encouraging our customers to follow the same path.

This paper aims to package together our ever-evolving sustainability offering.



BATES HIGHLIGHTS 2020

4 NATIONWIDE OFFICES	OVER 1000 PUBLIC & PRIVATE SECTOR CUSTOMERS	7 SDG'S MET
BATES HAS 128 EMPLOYEES		400 SUPPLIERS ACROSS 12 BUSINESS CATEGORIES



2020 AT A GLANCE ...

RECYCLED PACKAGING



2,890_{kg}

TOTAL EMISSIONS



903.4_{tCO2e}

WATER



1.0_{tCO2e}

% WASTE TO LANDFILL



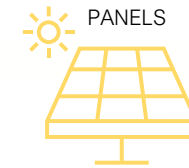
0%

TOTAL ELECTRICITY



92.6_{tCO2e}

ELECTRICITY GENERATED BY SOLAR PANELS



17,200_{kwh}



“It is easy to see the willpower in the company to drive for sustainable change, and the willingness to take an all-encompassing view of its footprint on the world shows true ambition to create meaningful action. In a decade of climate action, we need more pioneering businesses like Bates Office Services. I look forward to working with them in years to come.”

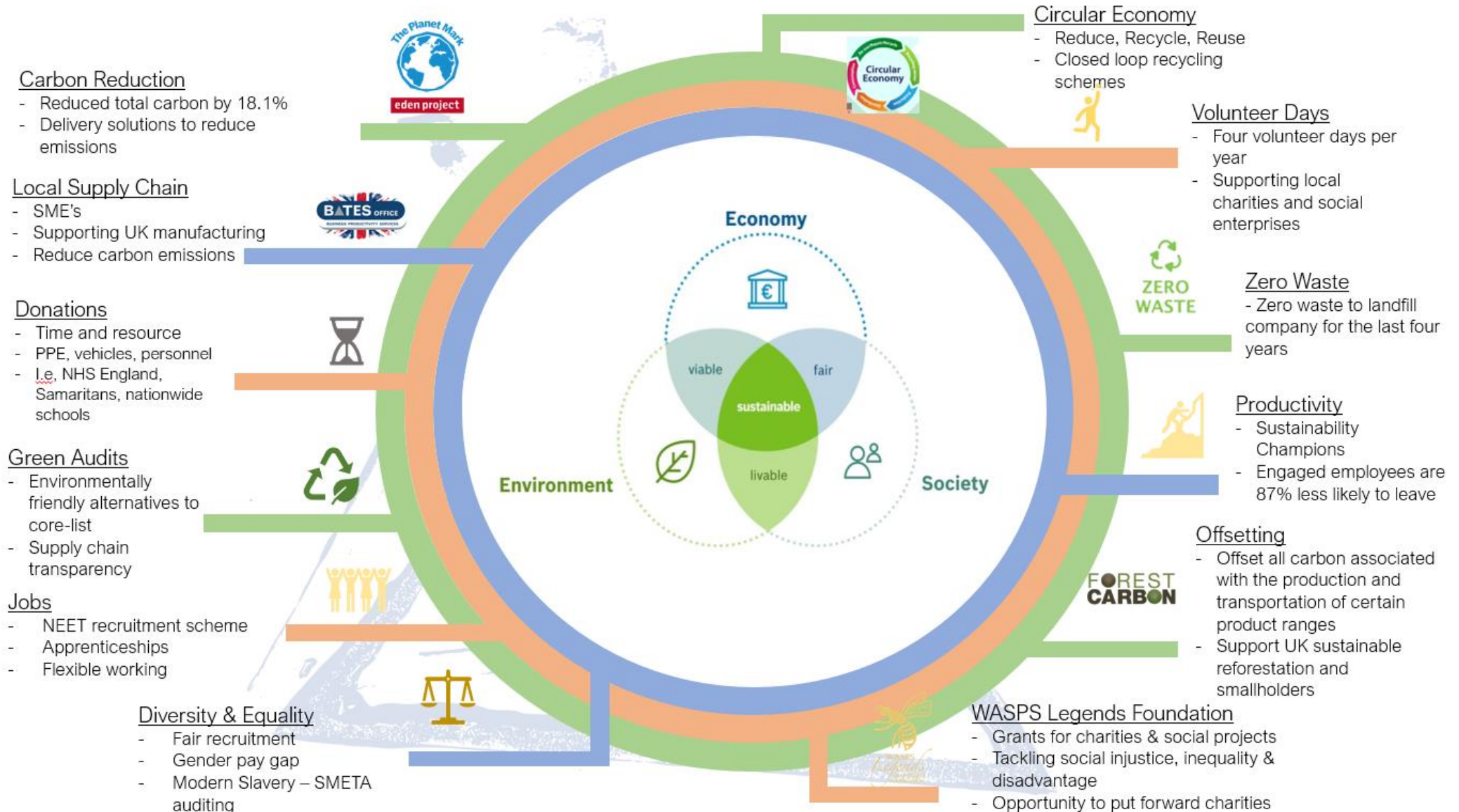


**We are working with
Planet Mark to *CREATE* a brighter
future for society and the planet**

HOUSE OF SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

SINCE 2010, BATES HAVE BEEN AT THE FOREFRONT OF SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION. BATES HAS ITS OWN SPECIALIST SUSTAINABILITY DIVISION HEADED BY BOARD-LEVEL SUSTAINABILITY DIRECTOR, REBECCA EDMONDS. WORKING WITHIN THE THREE PILLARS OF SUSTAINABILITY – ECONOMY, ENVIRONMENT, AND SOCIETY – BATES HAVE IMPLEMENTED INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL INITIATIVES.

THE BELOW DEMONSTRATES THE COMPANY'S LONG-TERM COMMITMENT TO SUSTAINABILITY.



CLOSING THE LOOP

KNOWN AS 'FRUGAL INNOVATION', BATES PERCEIVE RESOURCE CONSTRAINTS DUE TO MARKET FORCES AS A GROWTH OPPORTUNITY CONNECTED TO THE CIRCULAR REGENERATIVE ECONOMY.

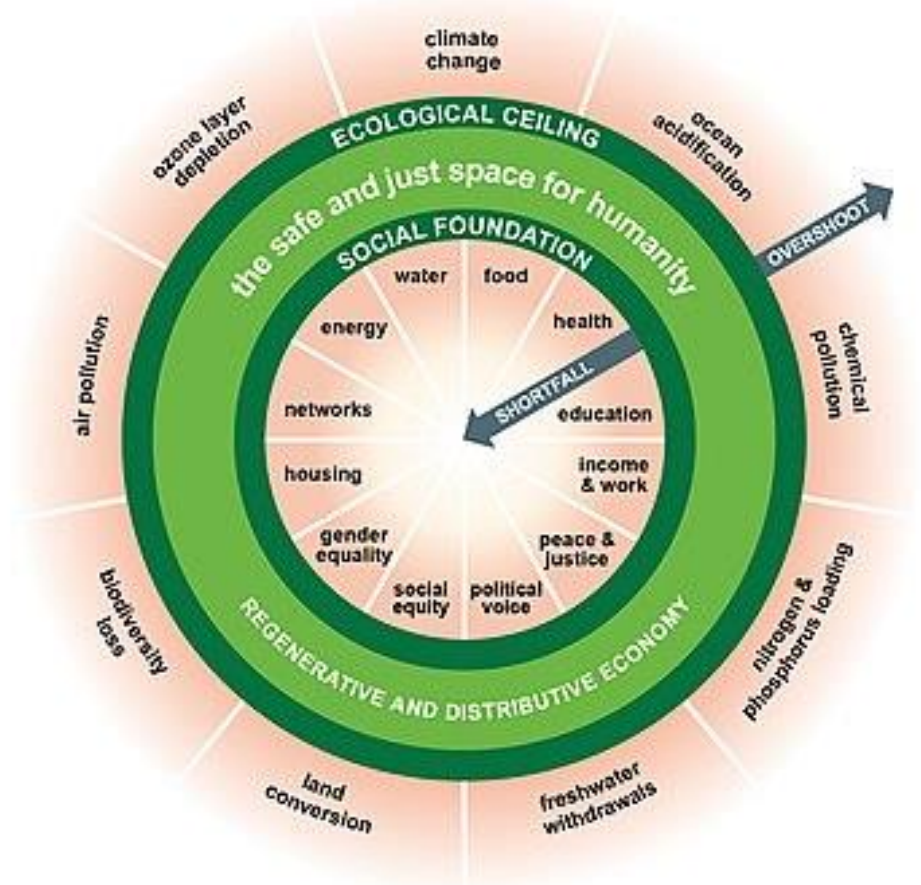
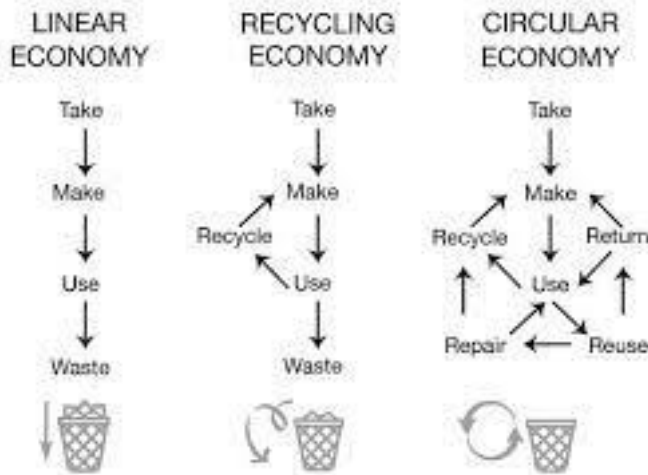
UNLIKE OUR COMPETITORS, BATES IS COMMITTED TO CREATING A CIRCULAR ECONOMY COMPARED TO THE CURRENT LINEAR MODEL. BY REDEFINING WASTE, BATES SHIFT TOWARDS GREATER PRODUCT ENVIRONMENTAL CREDENTIALS. WE ARE FOCUSING ON NOT OVERSHOOTING OR BREAKING THE ECOLOGICAL CEILING, PRIORITISING A REGENERATIVE AND DISTRIBUTIVE ECONOMY.

WE ARE REGENERATIVE. WE AIM TO WORK WITH AND WITHIN THE CYCLES OF THE LIVING WORLD. WE ARE A SHARER, REPAIRER, REGENERATOR AND STEWARD.

OUR CLOSED LOOP METHODOLOGY ENCOURAGES AN 'ECOSYSTEM' OF BATES' SIX R'S:

REFRESH, REPAIR, REUSE, REGIVE, REMAKE & RECYCLE

WE ENSURE THAT FOR EVERY PIECE OF MATERIAL THAT WE PUT INTO THE MARKET THERE IS A ROUTE FOR RECYCLING VIA ONE OF THE SIX R'S. FOR INSTANCE, FOR EVERY SHEET OF PAPER WE SELL, BATES SHREDS, BALES, AND RECYCLES TO CREATE A NEW PAPER-BASED PRODUCT. THIS CLOSED LOOP SYSTEM ENSURES THAT WE ARE BEING REGENERATIVE, NOT EXPLOITATIVE.



KATE RAWORTH'S DOUGHNUT ECONOMICS

HOW WE CAN HELP

FOCUSING ON SUSTAINABILITY DIRECTLY IMPACTS ON EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT. THE CORPORATE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL REPORTED THAT ENGAGED EMPLOYEES ARE 87% LESS LIKELY TO LEAVE. BY HELPING OUR CUSTOMERS CREATE MEANINGFUL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGIES, THEIR RETENTION OF TALENTED AND PASSIONATE EMPLOYEES WILL INCREASE. SMALL INVESTMENTS, SUCH AS CREATING A SUSTAINABLE OFFICE SPACE, WILL IMPROVE PRODUCTIVITY, MOTIVATION, AND COULD INCREASE PROFITS BY £1,500 PER EMPLOYEE, PER ANNUM.

GREEN AUDIT

Bates conduct a 'Green Audit' on all our customer's core list of products. We identify innovative sustainable alternatives to everyday products, outlining the cradle-to-cradle environmental impact of each product. Where a sustainable alternative is not available, our experts advise whether the product is needed in a modern office environment.

LAST-MILE DELIVERIES

Unlike our competitors, Bates do not rely on third-party wholesalers for our deliveries. All deliveries are done on our own vehicles, providing us with the flexibility and autonomy to manage our carbon emissions. We provide our customers with an array of delivery solutions that reduce carbon footprint, such as scheduled deliveries. At present, 25% of Bates' fleet is electric and 18% hybrid solution. We are working to make our fleet 'greener', committing to a 100% fully electric fleet by 2030.

CRATE DELIVERIES

Bates use reusable crates for all office supplies deliveries. By using crates for our deliveries, we are saving over 480 tonnes of cardboard per year – the equivalent of 96 African elephants. This new initiative reduces our environmental impact and the amount of waste produced through our delivery solutions, reducing the need for recycling and disposal.

INNOVATION

At the House of Sustainability, our teams proactively suggest innovative products that are breaking new ground. We will work collaboratively with our customers to shape their sustainable office culture.

CARBON OFFSETTING

Unlike our competitors, Bates' environmental credentials are not reliant on carbon offsetting. At Bates, we do not believe that we can reverse the climate disaster by simply planting more trees whilst still exploiting natural resources through the linear economy. Where possible, we encourage reused, refreshed, and recycled office products. Some necessary items do not, however, have an alternative. For these items, we offset the carbon associated with the sourcing, production, and transportation; we have currently planted 2,100 trees, contributing to UK reforestation.

OUR TEN COMMITMENTS

- 1 Support the **elimination** of all forms of **forced labour**
- 2 Continue to be **innovative** & **ground-breaking** in our approach
- 3 Continually contribute to the **circular economy**
- 4 Ensure all tiers of the **supply chain** are **ethical**
- 5 Provide **low-emission delivery** solutions
- 6 **100%** fully **audited** supply chain
- 7 **Support & respect** the protection of **Human Rights**
- 8 Be **carbon neutral** by **2030**
- 9 Provide **sustainable alternatives** for all product ranges
- 10 Be **transparent**, always