

## Corporate Responsibility Report 2015-16

### REDUCING OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT

#### Green Electricity

Since moving to Formal House in March 2015, we have worked with the owners to switch to a green energy supplier. From April 2016, Ecotricity will be the electricity supplier for us and a number of other businesses in the building. Since Ecotricity derives 100% of its electricity from renewable energy sources, we hope to be able to report further on our carbon savings over the coming year.

The owners of Formal House have expressed an interest in installing solar panels on the building in future, and we are offering our encouragement and assistance towards this goal.

#### Carbon Offsetting

All of our employees walk, cycle, or use public transport to get to our office, but business travel outside Cheltenham is also necessary from time to time. Where public transport is not a practical option, we use cars. For the rare occasions we need to fly to locations outside the UK to mitigate the carbon impact of such trips, we use Carbon Footprint (provider of Carbon Offsets to the UK Government) to calculate our emissions and select a Quality Assurance Standard approved provider of carbon offsets. In the 12 months to May 2016 we have offset 1.204 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e associated with flights taken by employees, using projects fully verified to Kyoto/United Nations standards.

### CHARITABLE GIVING

In the 2015/16 financial year, Ethical Screening donated a combined total of £1000 to the following charity appeals:

- Water Aid - To be Born Appeal
- Orbis - Vision for Zambia
- Christian Aid - Christmas and Advent 2015 Appeal

These appeals were backed by UK Aid Match, a Department of International development (DFID) fund that matches public donations to charity appeals that focus on poverty reduction in developing countries.

Over the next 12 months, we plan to make donations on a quarterly basis to charities chosen by our employees.

### RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We operate within a wider responsible investment community and, where possible, we welcome the opportunity to support initiatives which promote or advance its cause. In 2015/16, we participated in the following:

- **Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI)** - Ethical Screening is a Professional Services Partner signatory to the UN-backed PRI. Its goal is to understand the implications of sustainability for investors and support its incorporation into investment decision making and ownership practices.

- **The "Cost of Life on Earth" event** - organised by the Ecumenical Council for Corporate Responsibility, a church-based investor coalition. Discussions at this event focused on how investments can help tackle the global climate crisis.
- **Good Money Talks** - as part of Good Money Week, co-ordinated by the UK Sustainable Investment and Finance Association, we took part in the annual 'Good Money Talks' event.
- **The London consultation for Corporate Human Rights Benchmark** - a consultation on the methodology for the first ranking of the world's largest publicly listed companies on their human rights performance, funded by the governments of the UK and the Netherlands, and the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust.