



MERCi

Environmental Policy

This policy is a guide to reducing the environmental and subsequent social impact that the day-to-day activity of MERCi and Bridge-5 Mill has locally and globally.

MERCi was established to promote sustainable living and hence all workers, volunteers, tenants and visitors are encouraged to carry out the following measures.

Waste

- Compost food waste.
- Recycle all paper, cardboard, glass, metal in the appropriate recycling bins.
- Collect tinfoil (including bottle tops), used stamps and re-usable envelopes.
- Crush all other waste to minimize space.

Energy

MERCi purchases its electricity from a renewable energy source for Bridge-5 Mill, however the burning of gas to heat the building contributes to climate change. Clearly there is also a need to conserve electricity to enable greater participation in renewable energy and to save money.

- Switch off lights when leaving a room for a significant amount of time.
- Turn radiators down when leaving for the weekend.
- Close windows at the end of the day.
- When not in use put photocopier and other appliances on stand-by.

Water

A large amount of water is treated and piped into Manchester - water that could be left in rivers. By conserving water and not polluting the water we use we can contribute positively to the biology of the North West

- Use the low flush option on toilets when possible.
- Conserve water when cleaning etc.
- Only use environmentally-friendly cleaning products like Bio-D.

Resource Use

- Purchase and use recycled paper and card.
- Use envelope re-use labels.
- Avoid PVC folders and wallets and instead use other plastic and card substitutes.
- To avoid over packaging purchase in bulk through the SUMA order and Green Stationary Company.

Transport

Vehicle use will be kept to a minimum and we will encourage walking, cycling and using public transport.



MERCi

Air Quality

- To reduce the indoor air pollutants MERCi has a no smoking policy in all parts of the building
- Encourage the use of indoor plants to clean the air.
- Avoid using aerosol paints and cleaners.
- Avoid solvent correction fluids, marker pens, paints etc. and use water based alternatives.
- Hold a preference for products made from natural materials like wood and avoid foam-backed carpets and other synthetic furniture made from MDF etc.

Food

We probably have our greatest impact on the environment and on our health through the food we eat. We therefore encourage people to purchase local produce, organic and cruelty free foods.

- Bridge-5 Mill is a vegetarian and fair-trade building.