

JB Schofield & Sons Ltd Environmental Policy

2019 Review:

The directors and management of the company continue to be committed to the improved environmental performance of the company in all aspects of its operations. Over recent years the company has worked to lower the visual impact of the site. This involved the removal of some stock piles and the further planting of tree screens. The ultimate aim being, where possible, to present a view of dry stone walls, and trees, or a combination of both. All fences, barriers, and buildings, are subjected to a rolling programme of redecoration, with most items being repainted every three years. The land to the low side (NE) of the premises, consisting of pasture land with a green belt designation, has been populated with indigenous tree species of a type suitable for the exposed elevation and the locality. The remaining fields are regularly inspected for signs of contamination. A sealed drainage system, using ductile iron piping has replaced the open culvert system, with surface grit interception taking place in large gulley pots at regular intervals. The water is then discharged to the site interceptor or sewage system. Further work to the yard boundary and surfaces is being undertaken on a continual basis within the commercial confines of trading conditions. Plant and vehicles will continue to be replaced with models that offer lower exhaust and noise emissions, again, within the confines of trading conditions.

The company has operated a policy of continual site improvement for a long period of time. During 2011 we redesigned, enlarged, and rebuilt, our main entrance. We moved an 800 tonne stockpile and created a visitor and customer parking area. Roadways were white lined, and a traffic management system put in place to speed up throughput and reduce the chance of accidents. This area is designated a clean area but water runoff does enter the sealed drainage system. New signs have been installed giving clear instructions regarding traffic management. In 2016 we resurfaced all existing roadways that hadn't been re-laid in the previous three years. These surfaces were laid to a very high standard using the most durable tarmac available. Made from recycled steel slag, this tarmac is extremely hardwearing and more resistant to cracking than concrete. In 2018 we created a new staff car park on the footprint of our original weighbridge, replacing steel fencing with attractive stone walls, as well as extensive and attractive landscaping. In addition, we created unloading bays and a pedestrian way, in the area around the office and weighbridge.

Material continues to be processed with a view to recycling 100% of the metal content. Much of this recycled material is supplied directly to UK foundries, particularly cast iron, although we occasionally export high quality grey iron products in shipping containers. Steel products are supplied to authorised UK exporters who supply markets worldwide. The company is committed to complying with any relevant environmental legislation, and is subject to regular inspection by the Environment Agency, with whom, owing to our very high site standards, we have a very good working relationship. Deficiencies in our systems, or operations, have been extremely infrequent and minor, thereby supporting the above statement. We will however continue to strive for zero deficiencies in our systems of operation. The management have undertaken to audit, at regular intervals, the stated environmental policy; this will include a written report on the achievements of the previous period, and to further document the targets for the following period.

The site continues to support a diverse wildlife population, within the expectations of its geographical location, particularly birds. The tree screens provide nesting opportunities in the surrounding enclosed agricultural, and monoculture, pasture land.