



Environmental Policy Review 2024

The company reviews its environmental performance using the following guidelines and implements changes to company policy as appropriate.

1. Review material purchases against previous years
2. Review utility purchases against previous years against volume and unit cost
3. Compare the volume of waste against previous years
4. Our engagement with local and national environmental bodies to improve performance
5. New and existing technologies

Company information

N.E.J. Stevenson Limited design and manufacture bespoke furniture and architectural woodwork. Located at our sole premises in Church Lawford, Warwickshire we employ thirty-five people in design, administration, manufacturing, and installation and in the 2023-24 year the company's turnover was £ 3,263,945 up from £ 2,897,873 in 2022-23.

The environmental performance of the company is reviewed by the senior management team comprising the following:

Neil Stevenson	Managing Director
Fiona Stevenson	Finance Director
Ian Bown	Production Director
David Drew	Contracts Director

Neil Stevenson takes ultimate responsibility while Fiona Stevenson co-ordinates the implementation of policy and engagement with outside bodies. As Finance director, she is responsible for the monitoring of all the supply chain purchasing and reviews our contracts with suppliers and utility companies. Ian Bown and the Works Manager are responsible for day-to-day purchasing decisions. We view elimination of waste as both a financial issue as well as an environmental one and review our purchases monthly against yearly budgets.

Our processes change little from year to year but can be affected by new technologies and equipment, which allow us to be more efficient. As these opportunities arise, we review cost against benefit to determine whether to implement.

We have previously undertaken an analysis of our processes with Warwickshire County Council's environmental team who considered and evaluated our raw material, waste, and utilities usage, before issuing the firm with a Green Achievement award. We have continued to follow the principles that gained us the award although sadly the awards no longer exist.

Purchasing Policy

All materials where possible are to be purchased according to the following guidelines:

1. The product meets the technical requirements
2. The product meets the quality requirements
3. The product is supplied from a sustainable source
4. The product is recyclable
5. The supplier is local (within 50 miles)
6. The supplier has an ethical framework for trading that includes an:
 - Environmental policy
 - Health and Safety policy
 - Equal Rights policy

Materials

We purchase a wide range of materials, but our main supplies are solid timber and boards £129,471, fixtures and fittings £128,451, veneer £48,333, glass £20,500, polishes £16,782 fabric/leather coverings £36,046, Metal £36,975 and Stone £15,662.

All our main administrative supplies are sourced locally within a 10-mile radius. Our raw materials are sourced in relation to specification and if an equivalent local source exists this will be given precedence. We seek to use local sources of sub-contract manufacture where possible, but quality is the most important governing factor.

N.E.J. Stevenson Ltd
Postcode CV23 9HD

Value of purchases by postcode

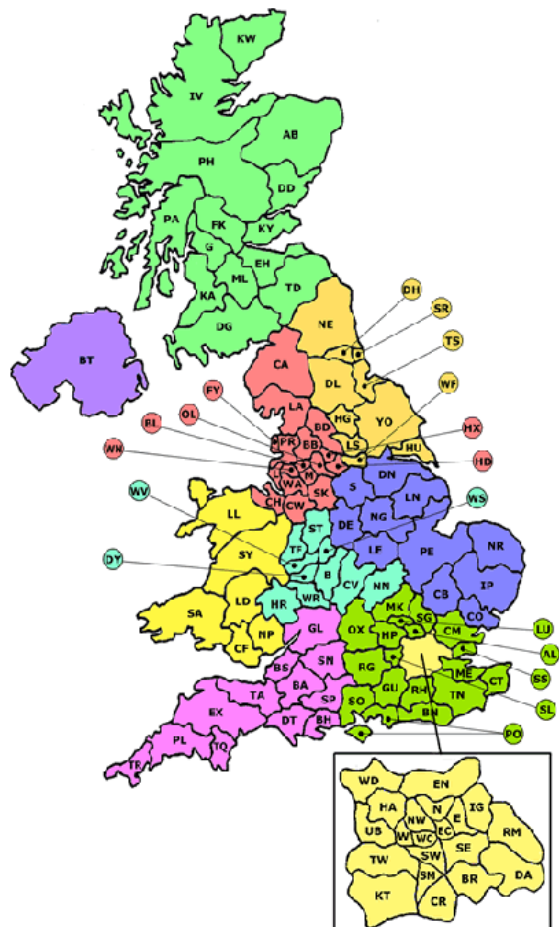
Within 50 miles	
CV	£273,085
NN	£25,881
LE	£53,775
B	£59,294
OX	£8,043
NG	£30,768
GL	£182,387
	<u>£633,333</u>

London specific purchases £76,089
Utilities £61,790
Memberships and services £41,973
Insurance, security, IT, Accounts £36,115
Specialist sub-contracting £1,101,341
One off equipment/software £82,783

Total purchases for period
£2,192,493

Note

We install a significant proportion of our furniture in London and when we require materials or services, we endeavour to use companies local to the project sites.



Environmental Issues

Climate change

All the company's activities have a potential effect on our climate as well as profitability. The benefits of economy and efficiency in our working practises will provide personal and global benefits. We understand that:

- Our usage of power from non-renewable resources is unsustainable and that we must work towards renewable energy resources with reduced carbon emissions.
- Timber from unsustainable sources has a detrimental effect on carbon capture but timber is also a major sustainable resource. We are committed to the promotion of timber as an important part of climate care.
- Our use of motor vehicles to conduct our business represents a significant challenge to us in reducing emissions and fuel usage.
- Some of our polishes are solvent based with potentially harmful emissions.
- Burning of our timber waste for heat is both an environmental benefit and problem.

Electricity

We produce bespoke products and do not operate a standard manufacturing process; consumption of power by machines is extremely varied with total usage reflecting the type and volume of business activity. However, following advice from energy consultants we have analysed our electrical usage and upgraded our supply systems to improve efficiency.

Electrical usage

Purchased power

		per £1000 of turnover	per staff member
2024	122,573 kWh	33	3,502 kWh
2023	125,140 kWh	43	3,575 kWh
2022	119,511 kWh	36	3,230 kWh
2021	126,884 kWh	56	3,429 kWh
2020	126,539 kWh	39	3,244 kWh
2019	120,430 kWh	42	3,169 kWh
2018	104,020 kWh	38	3,058 kWh
2017	97,453 kWh	38	3,045 kWh
2016	89,561 kWh	52	2,889 kWh
2015	86,701 kWh	45	3,096 kWh
2014	93,207 kWh	46	3,328 kWh
2013	107,683 kWh	87	3,988 kWh
2012	88,006 kWh	44	3,384 kWh
2011	85,280 kWh	80	3,280 kWh

Solar Generated Electricity

		per £1000 of turnover	per staff member
2024	21,985 kWh	6	628 kWh
2023	30,079 kWh	10	807 kWh
2022	58,305 kWh	17	1,576 kWh
2021	47,120 kWh	21	1,274 kWh

Solar Exported Electricity

		per £1000 of turnover	per staff member
2024	3,970 kWh	1	113 kWh
2023	6,050 kWh	2	169 kWh
2022	8,150 kWh	3	220 kWh
2021	9,640 kWh	4	261 kWh

Polishes

We use synthetic lacquers for polishing; we minimise their impact by using a pressurised lacquer system, which reduces both compressed air and lacquer use by at least 30%. This in turn reduces the amount of fumes and solids entering our extraction system. The system incorporates two sets of filters to remove most particulates from the outflow.

As less toxic materials are developed, we constantly review the types of polishes used and will move to water-based systems as soon as practical.

Timber

We are conscious of the need to purchase sustainable materials and as such only purchase timber and timber products from ethical companies working within the UK who can supply chain of custody evidence. Where possible those timbers are FSC or PEFC but as only around 10% of the world's timber is accredited, it is not always possible.

All timber purchased is from companies that abide by the new UK Timber Regulations, which are closely aligned to the EU Timber regulations ensuring that all timber products purchased are legally sourced.

We are opposed to using non-European timbers, but the nature of our service means that sometimes we must meet our customer's requirements, in particular with respect to work in historic buildings.

Transport

The operation of the business requires us to use vehicles to facilitate work, visit clients and deliver goods. We minimise road journeys by using trains where possible, however being located in rural Warwickshire, public transport is not a viable option for most employees. We have introduced a bicycle scheme for our staff and currently 21% of our staff use bicycles for some journeys.

- Currently 60% of our business is in London and we utilise public transport and bicycles where possible.

Water

The company's manufacturing processes do not require significant quantities of water. Following a significant increase in usage from 2014 to 2016 we improved consumption gradually through to 2019. Following a major refurbishment of toilets and kitchens we achieved a significant reduction with usage being fairly consistent for the last four years. The last four years have been averaged due to the way we are billed.

Water usage

		per £1000 of turnover	per staff member
2024	129 m ³	0.039	3.8
2023	129 m ³	0.044	3.5
2022	124 m ³	0.037	3.5
2021	124 m ³	0.054	3.2
2020	142 m ³	0.044	3.6
2019	263 m ³	0.092	7.7
2018	320 m ³	0.118	9.4
2017	333 m ³	0.130	10.4
2016	346 m ³	0.201	11.2
2015	324 m ³	0.168	11.6
2014	288 m ³	0.140	10.3
2013	150 m ³	0.121	5.5
2012	140 m ³	0.069	5.3
2011	222 m ³	0.208	8.5

Waste management

We use a wide range of finishing materials with widely differing environmental impacts. All our liquid waste material from the polishing process is stored in a single steel drum and recycled as needed by a regulated recycler, Duston Oils who state the following:

“Paint and thinners are collected by curtain-side truck and transported to our site in Duston where they are stored until an economic load size has accumulated. They are then transported to a permitted recovery facility where the thinners are recycled by distillation for re-use. The residual paint is mixed with other waste streams and incinerated in a cement kiln as Secondary Liquid Fuel. If the paints are recyclable, then they go straight to a Secondary Liquid Fuel producer and ultimately incineration in a cement kiln.”

We re-cycle 100% of our sawdust waste by donating this free to our local farm, where it is used for animal bedding. Our solid waste is stored for heat generation during the winter and donated to local schools for craft projects.

All other solid waste is stored in bins and collected by our recycling partner Rugby Borough Council.

Liquid waste: Litres

	Litres	per £1000 of turnover	per staff member
2024	410	0.11	11.71
2023	410	0.14	11.71
2022	205	0.07	5.54
2021	205	0.06	5.54
2020	410	0.13	11.08
2019	615	0.21	15.7
2018	336	0.12	9.88
2017	250	0.10	7.81
2016	205	0.12	6.61
2015	205	0.11	6.83
2014	205	0.10	7.07
2013	205	0.17	7.59
2012	205	0.10	7.88

Solid waste: Litres

	Litres	per £1000 of turnover	per staff member
2024	114,400	31	3268
2023	228,000	79	6514
2021	286,000	85	7729
2020	286,000	89	7729
2019	286,000	100	7333
2018	286,000	105	8,412
2017	275,000	108	8,594
2016	250,800	146	8,090
2015	238,700	124	7,957
2014	223,300	109	7,700
2013	192,500	156	7,130
2012	171,600	86	6,600

Note – We are charged by the number of bins emptied rather than the weight or volume of each bin.

Gas

We only use LPG gas for heating our spray booth. Usage is determined by the type and volume of work as well as the ambient temperature.

LPG	litres
2024	1850
2023	1800
2022	2944
2021	2049
2020	1523
2019	1400

Carbon footprint per £1000 of turnover

2024 Carbon trust
Scope 1 and 2
37521 kgCO₂e 11.49

2023 Carbon trust
Scope 1 and 2
45796 kgCO₂e 15.80

2022 Carbon trust
Scope 1 and 2
39,515 kgCO₂ 11.87

2021 Carbon trust
Scope 1 and 2
54,202 kgCO₂ 23.78

Improvement proposals for 2024

Office extension – Delayed from 2023 a new entrance and ground floor extension with greatly increased insulation and an upgrade to LED lighting and air source heat pumps.

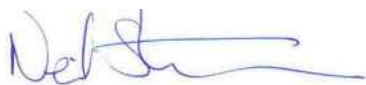
Cabinet shop heating – Replace woodburning units with air source heat pumps.

Exterior – replace metal cladding with recycled cladding and increase insulation.

Extraction system – Install a return air ducting system to recycle heat from the extraction system into the workshops.

New cars to be electric/hybrid

Install EV charging points



Neil Stevenson
Managing Director