



# SOCIAL VALUE

2023  
REPORT

Our approach to social value responds to social, environmental and economic issues across all aspects of our practice. We aim to use our business as a force for good, improving local communities, providing opportunities and demonstrating a thoughtful design approach. We focus our activity under four themes which are based on the National TOMS framework – Next generation, Environmental impact, Health & wellbeing, Charitable giving & volunteering.



# 2023 HIGHLIGHTS

## NEXT GENERATION



### WORK PLACEMENTS

We welcomed 3 students from local high schools and colleges, each spent 1 week with us on work placement.



### CAREERS FAIRS

3 careers fairs at local schools and Leeds Beckett University.



### STUDENT MENTORING

2 days spent mentoring first year Architecture students.



### YEP COMMITTEE & SPONSORSHIP

Chris continues to be a committee member of YEP Leeds and we were proud to sponsor the quiz event.

## ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT



### PLANET MARK

We became a Planet Mark certified business which means we are monitoring, measuring and reducing our carbon footprint.



### ISO 14001 CERTIFIED

We also became ISO 14001 certified demonstrating our commitment to continuously improving our environmental performance.



### **WE EXPANDED OUR LEEDS OFFICE**

To reduce our commuting miles we moved to a larger Leeds office which for many of our team is closer to home and accessible via public transport and bike.



### **SUSTAINABLE DESIGN CHECKLIST**

A new checklist has been introduced into our projects to look at various sustainable design considerations.

## HEALTH & WELLBEING



### **QUALIFIED MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AIDER**

Ollie became our mental health first aider after completing his training course.



### **UPDATED HEALTH & WELLBEING POLICY**

We introduced an updated and more comprehensive health & wellbeing policy. As well as lifestyle focussed CPD's and an EDI workshop.

## CHARITABLE GIVING & VOLUNTEERING



### **£3690 RAISED FOR LEEDS HOSPITALS CHARITY**

We conquered the Yorkshire Three Peaks Challenge in aid of the charity.



### **£2850 DONATED TO CHARITY**

Through cash donations and sponsorship we've donated to multiple charitable causes.



### **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERING**

Tree maintenance was carried out on 400 newly planted trees in Harrogate.



### **MISSION CHRISTMAS**

25 new toys donated to the Mission Christmas appeal which gives gifts to children living in poverty in the UK.



### **KIT SPONSORS**

Proud kit sponsors of our local U12's football club.



### **PRO BONO WORK**

We are working with a charity offering our services to help design their own centre to host their services from.

## 2024 COMMITMENT

As architects, we acknowledge our capacity to generate positive social, economic, and environmental impact through the spaces we design. With the collaboration of our clients, our commitment is to consistently explore avenues for enhancing social value and to develop methods for recording and measuring it, ensuring long-term benefits.

Our practice-wide commitments extend into 2024 as we aim to amplify our efforts across all four of our focus areas. Our objectives are articulated within the following four areas.

### **Next generation**

Engage with and inspire the next generation of architects and provide education and employment opportunities.

### **Environmental impact**

Continue to reduce our environmental impact and influence sustainable design solutions.

### **Health and wellbeing**

Enhance staff wellbeing and mental health initiatives.

### **Charitable giving & volunteering**

Support local community projects and use the business as a force for good by fundraising for charitable causes.