

Allies and Morrison

Head of Sustainability

The Head of Sustainability will be responsible for overseeing, refining and co-ordinating the practice's sustainability strategy. Working across the practice, the Head of Sustainability will play a crucial role in communicating and promoting excellent sustainability standards as an integral part of good architecture and design, as well as for our organisational responsibilities.

The primary focus of the position is to work with our design teams, consultants, and clients with guidance and targeted performance analysis to raise sustainability aspirations. There are opportunities to develop and lead targeted research. You will directly influence the performance of our projects and make a genuine contribution to our commitment to LETI, Architects Declare and the RIBA 2030 Challenge.

We are looking for a thought leader who has the energy, enthusiasm and ability to implement our sustainability strategy, engaging stakeholders at all levels, whilst providing practical and technical guidance to our project teams and our clients.

Our Sustainability team, includes one full time supporting Sustainability Coordinator and ordinarily an internally recruited Architect, works to achieve the objectives outlined within the practice sustainability strategy which has commitments to designing net zero carbon projects, becoming a carbon neutral organisation, and facilitating a 'design for performance' culture.

Role outline

- Monitor and continue to implement Allies and Morrison's Sustainability Strategy
- Work alongside our architectural teams to develop sustainable, low carbon and regenerative architectural strategies.
- Inspires, mentors, and educates project staff on sustainable design and new/innovative technologies.
- Champion the practice sustainability design profile externally. Review/ update the Allies and Morrison Sustainability Policy.
- Support the practice in fulfilling our RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge commitments, with reporting to Partners at regular intervals.
- Lead the strategic Sustainability team at Allies and Morrison and interface with wider interested sustainability group members and practice champions
- Champion an appropriate, open and clear communication of sustainability throughout the practice, to our clients and to the media that is consistent with the practice values, closely liaising with our Communications Director
- Implement a comprehensive staff sustainability training program, in line with the Climate framework.
- Assist with our CPD programme in line with RIBA curriculum
- Contribute to bids and winning work
- Engage with our ISO 14001 and 50001 certification requirements and develop annual targets – most particularly with regard to reducing our operational carbon
- Reporting to a Partner at the practice

Key areas of responsibility

PROJECTS

- Develop and refine Building Physics strategies with Allies and Morrison Technical and BIM teams.

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- Broaden sustainability software skills across the practice – promoting and refining the existing practice Sustainability Toolkit and our bespoke Upfront Carbon analytical software.
- Participate as part of Allies and Morrison project design teams to ensure sustainability and regenerative design is an integral part of all our work.
- Undertake internal auditing of Allies and Morrison projects vs RIBA 2030 challenge commitments.
- Advising design and delivery teams internally on matters of sustainability, including methodologies, strategies, materials, building physics, politics, codes, metrics, accreditation, design and details.
- Challenging potential improvements of project sustainability standards.
- Engage staff in sustainable design best practice through CPDs and internal training.
- Provide a critical eye to support management team decisions on procurement and the management of our own studio operations.
- Lead air quality management reporting and liaise with management on wellbeing standards within our studios.

PROGRAMME

- Establish and maintain a detailed task programme, updated at least quarterly, to reflect practice activity and aligned with the sustainability strategy.

COMMUNICATIONS

- Agree and prepare timely, regular and up-to-date news for the practice intranet, the website and social networks – liaising with our Communications Team Director.
- Engage with UKGBC and other advisory groups – co-ordinate practice contributions to UKGBC events and recommend engagement with training offers.
- Initiate liaison with and contribute to our clients on their own initiatives.
- Develop the practice profile for relevant industry awards

EXHIBITIONS / EVENTS / TALKS/ TRAINING

- Identify key events which tie in with our Sustainability Strategy.
- Track and refine our commitments to Architects Declare and the RIBA 2030 Challenge
- Promote, execute and deliver events as appropriate (internal exhibitions and lecture programmes i.e., RIBA, RTPI, BCSC conference, NLA, BCO etc).
- Suggest Partner and practice engagement in external events including lectures.
- Improve knowledge sharing across the practice including CPD events: project lessons learnt, pecha kucha, conversations etc.
- Promote and manage a staff training programme with, for example, Green Register/ UKGBC

Required skills:

- Post graduate degree in environmental design, architectural engineering or equivalent
- Architectural training preferred but not essential
- An approachable attitude with an enthusiasm to connect with internal and external teams
- Ability to manage sustainable design deliverables for multiple projects simultaneously
- Knowledge of current environmental simulation tools and HVAC engineering technologies
- Confident in communicating environmental strategies in a variety of formats
- A commitment to continuous development and sharing of knowledge
- Excellent organisational, problem solving and time management skills
- Demonstrable experience in applying sustainable design in an architectural or engineering practice.

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- A sound knowledge and demonstrable experience in carrying out environmental analysis (including energy, daylight, thermal modelling, and life cycle analysis)
- Solid understanding of UK building regulations (Part L and Part O)
- Comprehensive knowledge of leading sustainability initiatives, including (but not limited to) RIBA 2030 Challenge and LETI.
- Demonstrated ability to perform independent research specific to environmental design
- Knowledge and use of leading sustainability certification programs, including (but not limited to) BREEAM, WELL, Passivhaus and NABERS.

Preferred skills:

- Passivhaus certified designer
- Proficient in Rhinoceros & Grasshopper
- Proficient in Ladybug tools

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