

WTS London Sustainability Policy Statement and Guidelines

Definitions:

WTS London: The London Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar, incorporated as WTS London.

Members: All paying members of WTS London, including sponsors and their representatives, in addition to any guest or invitee of members, sponsors or WTS London.

Policy Statement:

WTS London is committed to the principle of sustainability: meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs¹. WTS London will promote this philosophy by ensuring sponsors share our commitment to sustainability; integrating sustainable work practices into our administration; promoting sustainability to our members through events and education; and where possible, by influencing and encouraging the transport industry to reduce its impact on the environment.

Purpose:

Much is said of the global imprint that humans have on our environment. As a not-for-profit organisation based in London, WTS London's own imprint is relatively small when compared to organisations of greater scale and expanse. However our potential to influence others is great and should be harnessed in a way that helps meet the objective of making London a clean, green, sustainable city. This objective was set out by the Mayor of London in The London Plan² and encourages all organisations to work in a sustainable manner. By lessening our own impact and encouraging others to do the same, WTS London can ensure that sustainable practices are prioritised.

Policy Guidelines:

WTS London will help deliver this objective by implementing the following strategies:

- Sustainable Sponsors;
- Sustainable Work Practices;
- Sustainable Events and Education; and
- Sustainable Transport Industry.

Sustainable Sponsors

WTS London has an array of sponsors from both public and private sectors. Each sponsor has the responsibility of ensuring that its own organisation operates in a sustainable manner. WTS London will ensure that all its sponsors have an understanding of this responsibility, and where possible, WTS London will work with its sponsors to promote the issue of sustainability.

¹ WCED, *Our Common Future* (1987), Oxford: Oxford University Press.

² Greater London Authority, *The London Plan* (2004), London: Greater London Authority.

Sustainable Work Practices

The company base for WTS London is at Transport for London's Head Office, in South-West London. These headquarters are, by virtue of its owner, operated in a sustainable manner. Policies on reducing energy consumption, promoting recycling and waste minimisation are inherent in the building's administration. To ensure that these sustainable policies are continued beyond its headquarters, WTS London project officers will be responsible for maintaining the same standards of care, wherever they are located.

Sustainable Events and Education

The events programme offered to its members is a fundamental part of WTS London's remit. WTS London will ensure that all events are located in areas that offer alternative travel choices, with high Public Transport Accessibility Levels to encourage more sustainable transport use. So that walking, cycling and public transport options are made more accessible and attractive, WTS London will provide its members with directions and/or maps prior to any event taking place.

WTS London's membership base covers a wide range of the transport industry, and other related sectors. WTS London will ensure that sustainability issues, particularly as they relate to the transport industry, will be included in the events programme. Presentations and discussions promoting sustainable practices and strategies will encourage the growth of ideas and innovations amongst WTS London members and sponsors.

Sustainable Transport Industry:

WTS London has already been involved in consultation processes for the Gender Equality Scheme for Transport for London and the Draft Equality and Diversity Strategy for the Olympic Delivery Authority. WTS London was also represented at a plenary for the Commission for Integrated Transport as well as having representation at the Women in London's Economy conference. With this background and through association with other highly influential individuals and organisations, it is hoped that WTS London can continue to influence decision making processes within the transport industry. WTS London will ensure that sustainability issues remain at the forefront of discussion so that our influence can be utilised in working towards a more sustainable future.