

Willmott Dixon Sustainable Development: it's what we do

John Willmott starts a business which will come to be known nationally for excellent workmanship and loyal employees.



1852

William Willmott becomes a Justice of the Peace on Hitchin District Council. Walter Willmott also serves on the council and is a member of the Hitchin Board of Guardians, a charity for the community's poor. Investing in communities has always been an important part of the company's ethos.



1916

Build Bailiffscourt, a manor house in Sussex, using reclaimed materials, long before recycling became recognised as the right thing to do.



1930

Company maintains modest growth, despite difficult trading conditions, due to innovative new guidelines on estimating, which help reduce waste and control costs.



1950s

Training and development chart new waters as trainees and apprentices use their plastering and carpentry skills to build a yacht.



1974

The Ten Year Club is formed to celebrate employee loyalty.



1977

Complete the Elizabeth Fry Building for the University of East Anglia – one of the UK's first exemplar low energy buildings. A study many years later shows the building to still have outstanding levels of airtightness.



1995

Company embraces the recommendations of Sir Michael Latham's report 'Constructing the Team' and becomes a pioneer of partnering. Sir Michael Latham will go on to replace Sir Ian Dixon as Chairman.



1994

Chairman Sir Ian Dixon's 'Building Matters' campaign helps raise the reputation of the industry.



1989

Annual trainee of the year award is established to recognise and reward achievement.



1989

Building on excellent health and safety record, the company becomes the first to introduce an internal policing system.



1987

Rick Willmott becomes the fifth generation to lead the company. Under his stewardship, commitment to sustainable development is made explicit by its inclusion in the company's vision and values.



2001

Environmental managers appointed to help minimise negative environmental impact.



2005

Re-Thinking is formed, making Willmott Dixon the first construction company to have its own internal sustainability consultancy.



2006

Become a founding member of the UK Green Building Council.



2007

Company launches 10 Point Plan to drive sustainability on construction projects.



2008

Jonathon Porritt, one of the country's most influential sustainable development campaigners, is appointed to the Willmott Dixon Board.



2009

Company achieves its 2013 target to 'enhance the life-chances of 3,000 young people' - one of the first to be based on impact, not outcomes - and sets a stretch target of 10,000 by 2020.



2015

First in sector to achieve the Carbon Trust's new Supply Chain Standard.



2015

A founding member of the Supply Chain Sustainability School, which helps suppliers and sub-contractors navigate the sustainability agenda, raising standards across the industry.



2012

One of the few contractors to sign the Government's prompt payment code.



2012

First company in the sector to achieve the Carbon Trust Standard and become carbon neutral.



2012

The Willmott Dixon Foundation is born, setting a strategic direction for the company's community investment activities.



2011

Founder member of the Passivhaus Trust in the UK, pioneering low energy, low carbon buildings.



2010

We complete the multi-award-winning Leicester University's Centre for Medicine, the UK's largest non-residential project to achieve Passivhaus certification.



2016

Our social value work is recognised with a Queen's Award for Enterprise (Social Mobility).



2018

We announce our ambitious aim of achieving gender parity, across all grades, by 2030.



2018

We came 4th place in Sunday Times Top 100 Best Companies to Work for Awards.



2019

Our sustainability achievements are recognised with a Queen's Award for Enterprise (Sustainable Development).



2019

All offices and all new sites, where we are responsible for energy procurement, are powered with natural, renewable energy.



2019

WILLMOTT DIXON
SINCE 1852