

**Atelier**  
Carbonlite Challenge

**RIBA**   
Developed with RIBA support



# Sustainability Charter

Sustainable Build

Site Standards

Corporate Responsibility

Version 1.0 11/2021

# Carbonlite Challenge Sustainability Charter

## What is this charter about?

The purpose of this charter is to outline the standards and ways of working that Atelier expects its Carbonlite Challenge applicants to commit to, and the applicants' associated suppliers (where appropriate) to adopt, in order to be eligible for the Carbonlite Challenge scheme. If a borrower cannot commit to these standards and sign this form, the Carbonlite Challenge application cannot proceed.

It is important to highlight that the borrower must seek to instil and promote the charter's principles, where appropriate, within the practices of its suppliers and sub-contractors.

The standards have been established with the inputs of developers, borrowers, building consultants and our own internal development monitors, and Atelier believes that the standards outlined herein are reasonable and achievable for any development scheme that aspires to minimise carbon emissions and maximise sustainability.

In terms of site standards, these are inclusive of the relevant components of the Construction Design and Management (CDM) Regulations, which are a legal requirement.

## Who should read and sign this charter?

This charter should be read, acknowledged and signed by a representative of the borrowing development firm, who can act on its behalf. Any queries can be directed to your Atelier key contact.

## Information about completing the form

This charter is divided into the three following sections.

### **Sustainable Build**

### **Site Standards**

### **Corporate Responsibility**

Specific details are provided at the top of each section.

All sections are important for Carbonlite Challenge eligibility, and Atelier requires all Carbonlite Challenge applicants to confirm their agreement to abide by all sections and elements of this charter. There is a signature field at the end which must be completed.

Please direct any queries to your Atelier key contact.



# Carbonlite Challenge Eligibility

## Sustainable Build

It is essential that developers adopt a broad carbon and sustainability strategy with projects they wish to put forward for Atelier's Carbonlite Challenge.

Developers must commit to complete the Atelier Carbon & Sustainability Assessment Form, which will determine the project's Carbon & Sustainability Score. In order to be eligible for Carbonlite Challenge, the project must score, on a scale of A-E, at least a C grade in relation to its sustainability metrics. In addition to the sustainability metrics, the Carbon & Sustainability Rebate will be measured on embodied and operational carbon and potable water usage, as targeted in the RIBA 2030 Climate Challenge v2 (2021 edition).

As part of the eligibility criteria for Atelier's Carbonlite Challenge, we expect developers to adopt, as a minimum, sustainability measures within the following design elements of the build.

- **Embodied carbon**
- **Operational carbon**
- **Potable water usage**
- **Accommodation**
- **Energy management**
- **Ecology**
- **Water usage**
- **Waste management**
- **Health & wellbeing**

Information and data requirements for the above are covered within the Carbon & Sustainability Assessment Form.

This charter should be read in conjunction with the Product Guide and the Carbon & Sustainability Assessment Form.



# Carbonlite Challenge Eligibility

## Site Standards

As part of the eligibility criteria for Atelier's Carbonlite Challenge, we require your commitment and conformance as a firm, to the following components of construction site standards. These are inclusive of the relevant components of the Construction Design and Management (CDM) Regulations, which are a legal requirement.

**Atelier development monitors will assess adherence to these standards during regular site visits.**

### 1. Site employee welfare

- a. Provision of adequately heated shelter for employees, with the appropriate number of seats and tables, should enable a comfortable environment whenever needed and during breaks.
- b. Clean and tidy washing facilities with sufficient ventilation and lighting should be provided.
- c. An adequate supply of drinking water (including hot water) should be available for all employees.
- d. Changing facilities are required with seating and secure areas for storing personal clothing and protective clothing.
- e. Facilities for warming food should be accessible for all employees.
- f. Clean, tidy and working toilet facilities should be continually accessible for all employees.
- g. Adequate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be readily available for all employees on site.

### 2. Health and safety

- a. Compliance with current health and safety legislation is mandatory.
- b. The construction site should be kept as clean as reasonably possible, to ensure full safety for site employees, and so that negative impacts on neighbours and the local community are kept to a minimum.
- c. The periphery of the site should be fully hoarded – with clean, safe hoarding – and contact details of the appropriate site personnel should be clearly displayed to enable public reporting of any incident or issue at the site.

### 3. Community engagement

- a. Liaison with site neighbours and the local community should be evident, to ensure a co-operative working relationship within the local area (eg communication of organised delivery dates/times, advance notification of road closures).



# Carbonlite Challenge Eligibility

## Corporate Responsibility

As part of the eligibility criteria for Atelier's Carbonlite development finance, we require your commitment as a firm, to the extent applicable, to the following components of corporate responsibility.

- 1. Minimum wage:** Directly employed staff and regular contracted staff must be paid at least the UK minimum wage.
- 2. Fair hours and contracts:** A fair approach to zero or minimal hours contracts must be adopted, including fair shift scheduling and cancellation policy, and proper consideration given to contracts with guaranteed hours.
- 3. Employee wellbeing:** Clear, fair and transparent policies must be in place, that support and encourage employee wellbeing.
- 4. Diversity and inclusion:** The workplace should be an inclusive place to work and encourage diversity.
- 5. Environmental responsibility:** Demonstration of a commitment to reducing environmental impact and continually improving environmental performance must be evident.
- 6. Pay fair tax:** A commitment to paying taxes, to not engage in tax avoidance and to being transparent in the firm's relationship with HMRC is required.
- 7. Commitment to customers:** Publication of the firm's commitment to its customers on its website, as well as the gathering and monitoring of customer feedback, are required.
- 8. Prompt payment to suppliers:** Invoices should be paid to suppliers in line with the requested time scale on the invoice.
- 9. Financial crime prevention:** The firm must take all reasonable measures to prevent any form of financial crime taking place through its day-to-day activities, including fraud prevention, anti-money laundering and anti-bribery and corruption.
- 10. Modern slavery action:** A commitment to improving the firm's practices to combat slavery and human trafficking is required. The firm commits to acting ethically and with integrity in its business dealings and relationships, and to implementing effective systems and controls to ensure that any form of slavery is not taking place in its own business.

*I/We/The company agree to adhere to the standards set out in this charter, making all reasonable efforts to ensure full compliance. I/We/The company understand that failure to adhere to this may result in the scheme becoming ineligible for Carbonlite Challenge and/or the full or partial withholding of the Carbon & Sustainability Rebate by Atelier.*

Company developer name

Signatory name  
(on behalf of the developer)

Signed

Date  
(dd/mm/yyyy)

3-5 Rathbone Place  
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