

# Sustainability Charter:

Lasting benefits through sound investment and development.



# Foreword.

Nikal believe in creating developments that deliver lasting sustainable benefits through urban regeneration for the regional economy and local community whilst respecting the environment on which we all depend.

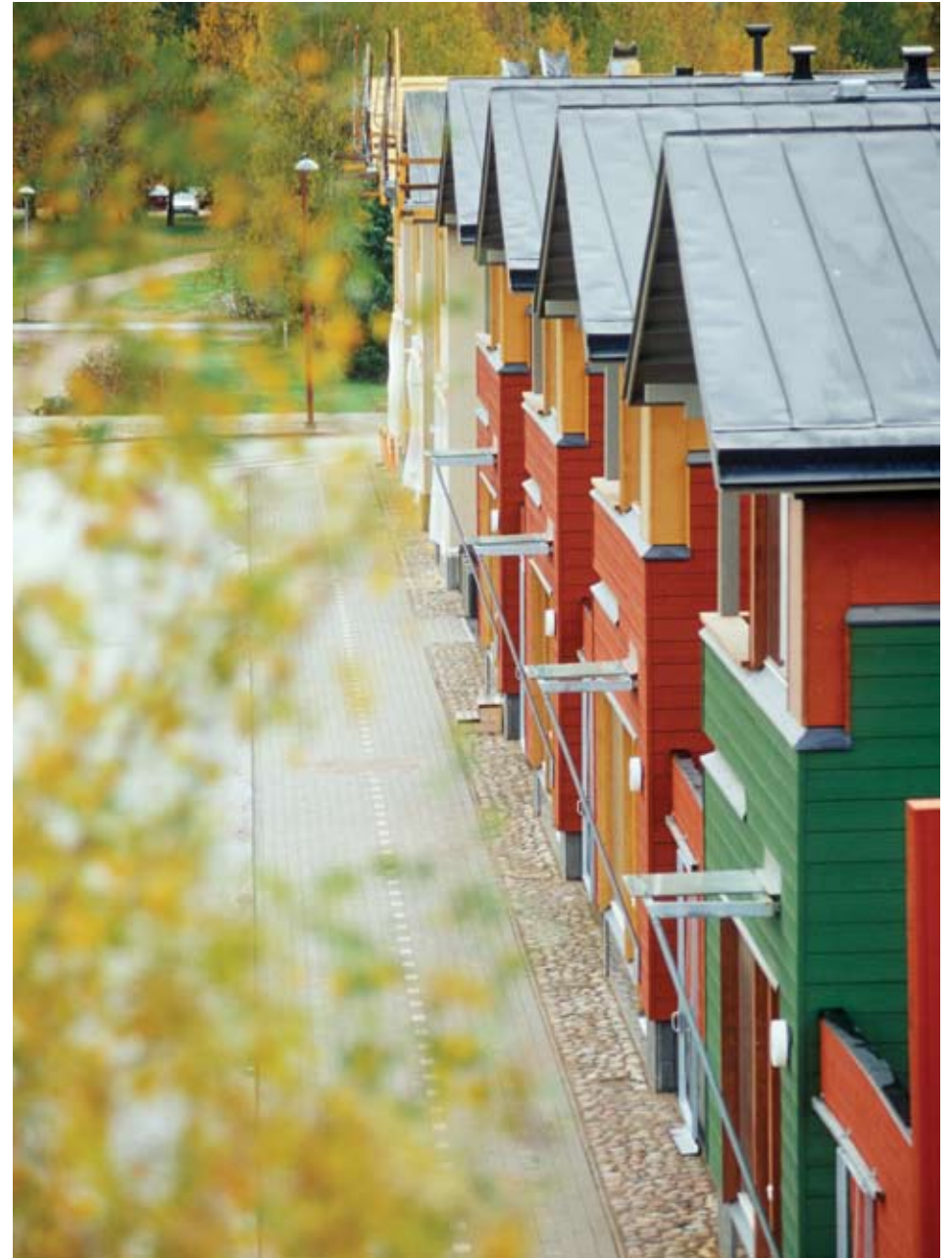
We recognise that our activities impact on the environment, society and the economy. Environmental, social and economic impacts are brought together through the theoretical concept and practical application of sustainable development. Nikal embrace sustainable development.

This Sustainability Charter consists of four overarching themes and a series of key principles which guide the way in which we will conduct business. Projects will be delivered alongside, and appraised against, the principles detailed in this charter.

Sustainability is pivotal to the way Nikal work; this Sustainability Charter is testament to this.

Nick Payne  
Managing Director

Nikal seeks to monitor all its activities, strive for continuous improvement, emulate, and where possible pioneer, best practice. Comments, questions or any contributions towards its effectiveness are welcomed and should be emailed to Nikal Ltd: [info@nikal.uk.com](mailto:info@nikal.uk.com)



# Introduction.

Past economic development, whilst being a stimulus for development and regeneration was often synonymous with environmental degradation and social disparities. Fortunately, the principles of sustainable development introduced a new era in economic growth based on the protection of the natural environment and social equality.

What is sustainable development?

*“Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”*

Nikal’s approach ‘lasting benefits through sound investment and development’

Overarching Nikal’s approach are a series of sustainability principles of which Nikal are signatory to. These principles are based on four themes:-

- 1. Ensuring environmental protection through design, innovation and resource efficiency.**
- 2. Designing for, and promoting, sustainable communities.**
- 3. Encouraging a strong stable sustainable economy.**
- 4. Decision making for the long term.**

These will be delivered through stimulating investment, creating sustainable communities, promoting and encouraging high quality design, developing long term thinking and protecting the natural environment.



# Sustainability Principles.

Nikal are aware that principles should not be considered in isolation but in relation to each other.

This Sustainability Charter will be circulated to everybody working with Nikal on development projects; all will be required to adhere to the following principles.

Proposals and developments will be appraised against the principles detailed in this Charter. We have developed our own sustainability appraisal toolkit which will guide and formulate decisions.

This charter will be reviewed annually and progress discussed in order to ensure principles are being delivered, to reflect on our performance and to learn from it.

## Ensuring environmental protection through design, innovation and resource efficiency.

Principle 1.

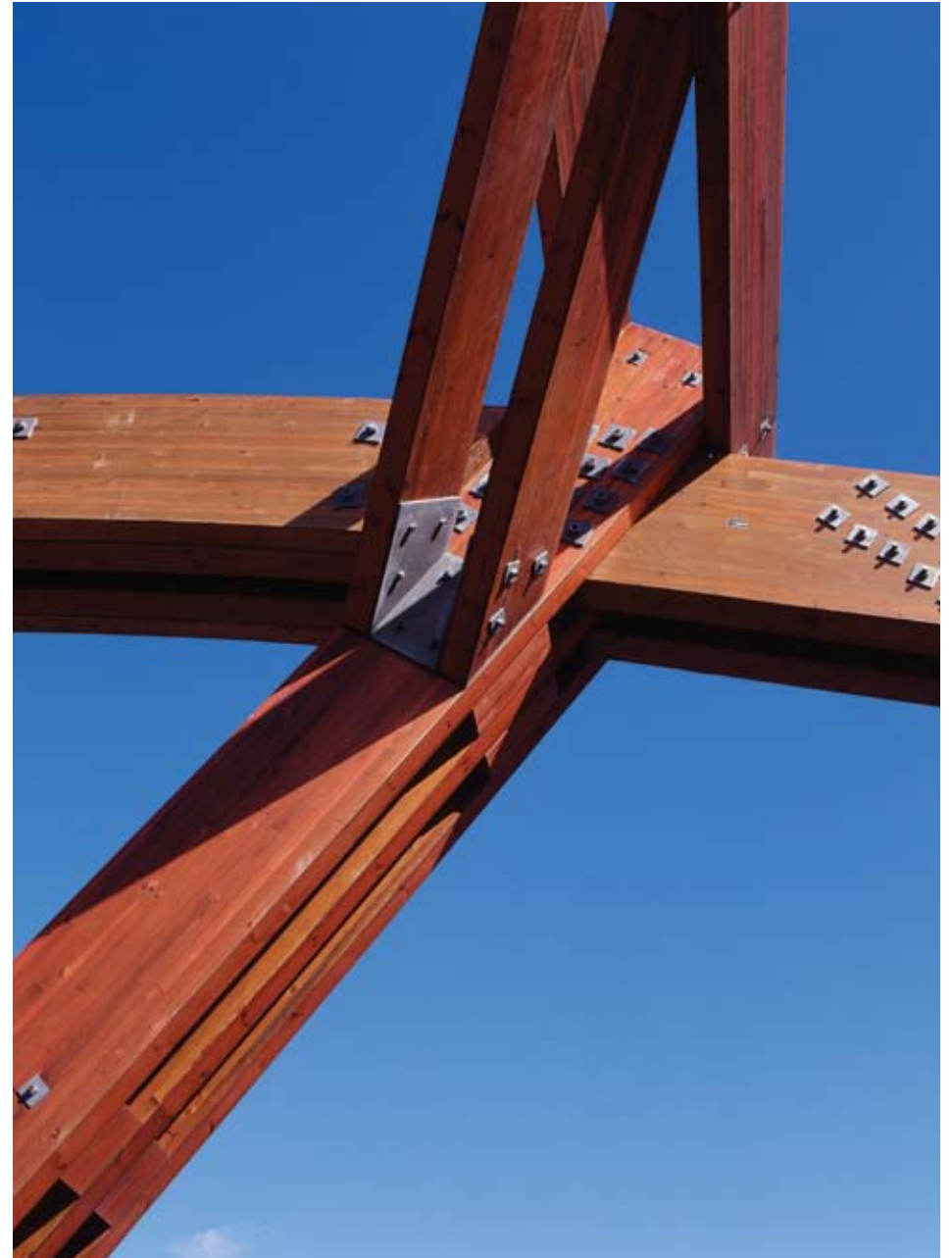
Current practices are consuming natural resources at a faster rate than can be replenished we will seek to maximise resource efficiency, use resources wisely, manage our use of non-renewable resources, use materials which are efficient in their consumption of energy and natural resources, and use materials that can be reused, recycled, or disposed of safely

Principle 2.

Through design features, innovation, technology, best practice and energy management we will reduce greenhouse gases, promote energy efficiency, reduce energy loss and wastage and increase resource efficiency. We will implement and promote the use and integration of renewable energy

Principle 3.

Every effort will be made to prevent noise, air, land, water and light pollution; wherever possible we will seek to improve the quality of air, land and water. We will consider the impact of noise, air, land, water and light pollution on the surrounding environment, wildlife and local community in order to reduce any negative effects



Principle 4.

We adhere to the waste hierarchy to reduce, reuse and recycle; where possible developments will include internal and/or external waste, recycling and composting storage facilities. We will strive to purchase materials which can be reused, recycled, or disposed of safely

Principle 5.

To reduce the overall consumption of water and safeguard water supply we will implement design features, water management and water saving devices

Principle 6.

We will implement travel planning, promote reduced car dependency and make provisions for accessible and integrated public transport. We will, through design and the provision of facilities, encourage safe pedestrian and cycle routes

Principle 7.

We will promote sustainable demolition, encouraging reuse and recycling; sustainable construction, encouraging the more sustainable use of resources during the construction process; and, sustainable procurement, encouraging locally reclaimed or recycled materials, locally sourced materials and goods, and locally sourced employment. Furthermore we will promote the more sustainable use of resources throughout the operation of completed developments

Principle 8.

Throughout design and development we will strive to protect wildlife and habitats, maintain and enhance biodiversity and, where possible, implement a habitat management plan and monitoring programme

Principle 9.

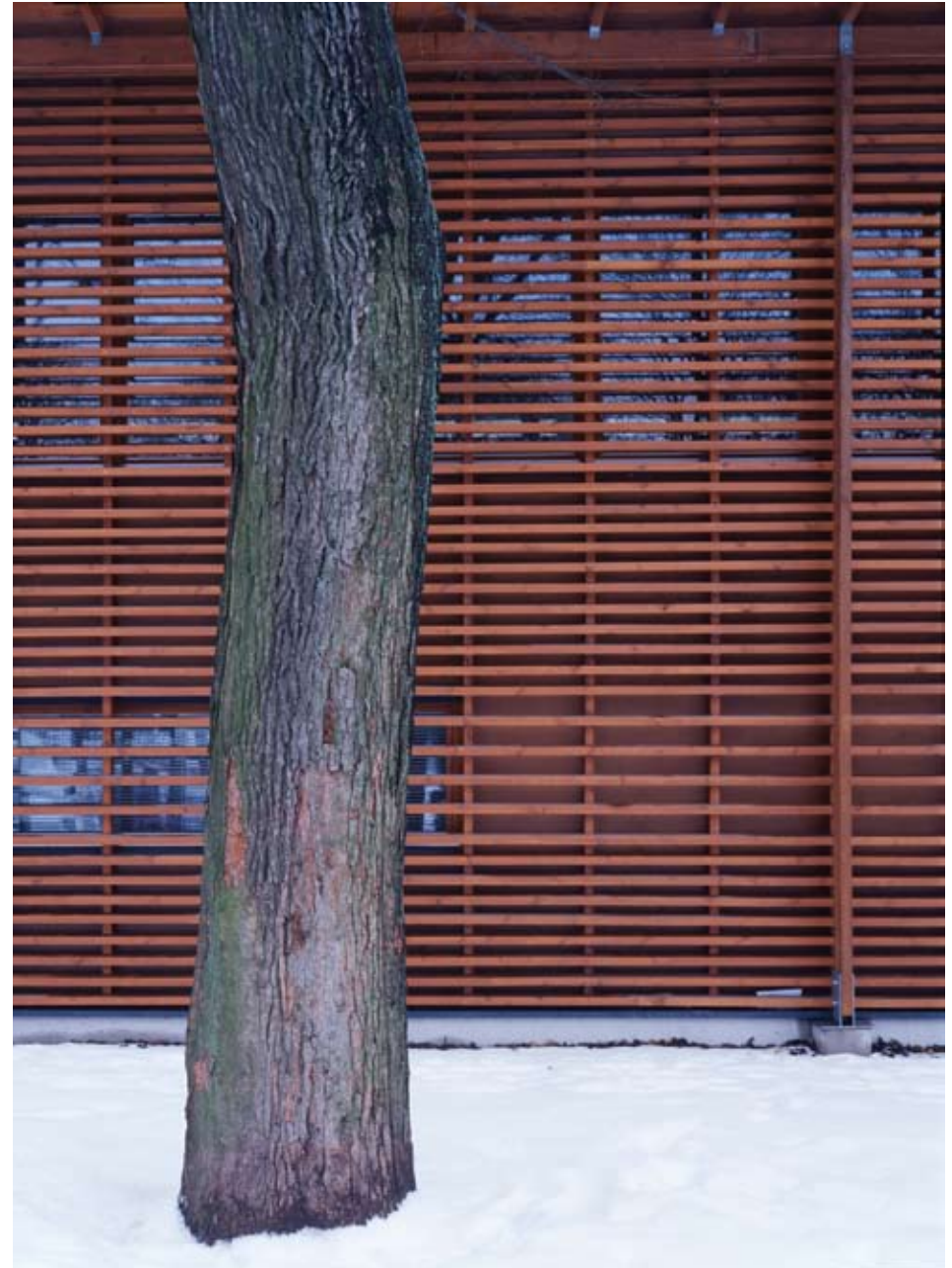
We will endeavour to provide additional ecological features and support the viability of species by linking populations and habitats. Within all our developments we will incorporate safe, accessible, aesthetic, open space and/or greenspace with an ecological value which has functional usage

Principle 10.

We will continue to research into new technologies, design and best practice, and liaise with innovative companies

Principle 11.

We will design for and deliver a high quality natural and built environment



## Designing for, and promoting, sustainable communities.

### Principle 12.

We will promote a vibrant, accessible, diverse, inclusive local community which has links to, and integrates with, the wider community

### Principle 13.

Through engagement we will seek to meet the needs of the local community, understanding community social inequalities and social problems prior to tackling them and identify and build on strengths of the locality. We will genuinely involve the local community in decision-making and strive to give the community a sense of ownership

### Principle 14.

We will encourage participation with community groups and support local work, suppliers and initiatives. We will encourage the formation of local community groups which will assist those within the community who are unable to participate without assistance

### Principle 15.

We will ensure accessibility for all, strengthen connectivity, communication and movement within the community and between surrounding communities. We will ensure disabled access to the development is addressed throughout

### Principle 16.

We will promote outdoor recreation, health and community interaction and provide access to high quality, aesthetic and diverse green public spaces

### Principle 17.

We will consider proximity to local centres, amenities and facilities, identify shortfalls, anticipate demand, then develop, design for, and/or upgrade community amenities & facilities. We will promote walking by integrating local amenities, which are within walking distance, into design

### Principle 18.

In order to provide high quality diverse housing stock we will strive to understand the housing needs for an area



Principle 19.

We will preserve, and build on, cultural heritage, protect archaeologically important features, rejuvenate heritage buildings and/or nurture the natural and built heritage

Principle 20.

Through design we will ensure security without creating exclusive communities and reducing accessibility

## Encouraging a strong stable sustainable economy

Principle 21.

Through investment and development we will develop conditions to drive economic growth employment and business opportunities, promote a vibrant, diverse and stable local economy with strong links to the wider urban, rural, regional and national economies, promote economic competitiveness, tackle deprivation and attract inward investment

Principle 22.

We will understand and assess economic opportunities and problems of an area prior to development in order to implement the best measures and design

Principle 23.

We will provide business space that complements and enhances businesses already in the local area, promote new and start-up businesses and improve the connectivity and communication between different businesses to enhance viability. We will provide space for all business types, both start-up or expanding, to maintain a diverse and flexible business sector within the area, and provide for facilities for future growth

Principle 24.

We will promote conditions for a diverse workforce, retain and attract diverse range of people, and ensure conditions to prevent brain drain

Principle 25.

Wherever possible we will strive to increase high quality employment opportunities and reduce concentrations of low employment. Through partnerships and community initiatives we will strive to grow the capability of the local workforce



Principle 26.

Wherever possible work, products, skills, materials and expertise will be sourced locally

Principle 27.

We will ensure that the development contributes to regeneration initiatives

## Decision making for the long term

Principle 28.

We will encourage development, design and planning that respects the historic fabric, character and local distinctiveness of the area, provides opportunities for excellence in new design and allows for innovation, future needs, culture and accessibility

Principle 29.

Upon completion of each project we will carry out an exiting strategy comprising of a round up of activities, lessons learnt, improvements and best practice

Principle 30.

We will communicate best practice, business benefits of sustainability practices and encourage the adoption of sustainable communities

Principle 31.

We will future proof developments against the impacts of climate change

Principle 32.

We will design for mixed use developments and ensure developments promote flexibility and adaptability through design and innovation for future use. We will envisage, create and promote future potential, opportunities and possibilities whilst anticipating risks and challenges

Principle 33.

We will create a place with a clear identity which creates a positive image for both the locality and region

Principle 34.

Decision-making will address the cumulative, long term, indirect, long distance and global consequences of all our activities

