



Spotlight on... air pollution

The Considerate Constructors Scheme aims to raise awareness of important industry issues through our '**Spotlight on...**' campaigns.

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year in the UK are
linked to air pollution

Royal College of Physicians &
Royal College of Paediatrics
and Child Health, 2016

Improving the image of construction

Spotlight on... air pollution

'Spotlight on... air pollution' raises awareness of the impact of air pollution and provides the industry with advice on tackling the issue.

40,000 deaths a year in the UK can be attributed to air pollution. These health impacts are in addition to the considerable environmental and financial costs of air pollution.

The UK has dangerously poor air quality. We therefore need to act now to reduce air pollution and safeguard our environment and health.

The construction sector is a significant contributor to air pollution through construction dust, plant machinery and construction transport. By taking practical steps to minimise emissions, sites, companies and suppliers can help improve our air quality.

An industry-wide survey issued by the Scheme found that:

- 91% said air pollution is a nationwide issue
- 84% said there is an issue with air pollution in the construction industry
- 64% said the industry is not doing enough to tackle air pollution
- 58% said that air pollution has an equal impact on health, the economy and climate change

How the issue is being tackled

Air pollution is increasingly high on the national and global agenda. Governments, cities and companies are putting measures in place to improve air quality. The construction industry in particular is seeking to minimise its impact on air pollution from dust, machinery and traffic emissions.

Some of the ways contractors are tackling this issue are dust suppression, air quality plans, delivery/traffic management, raising workforce awareness and using low-emission plant machinery.

London has introduced a number of measures to tackle air pollution in the City, including a low emission zone for Non-Road Mobile Machinery. These initiatives may soon be replicated across the UK and Ireland to tackle air pollution on a wider scale.

What to do now

The Scheme always wants to hear from registered sites, companies and suppliers on how they are addressing the issues covered in our 'Spotlight on...' campaigns.

The campaign will be updated as new information and case studies are identified, so get in touch and share your best practice initiatives.

Contact the Best Practice Hub team at enquiries@ccsbestpractice.org.uk.