

## Challenges:

The biggest sustainability challenges Newton Waterproofing Systems face are around the general lack of awareness of sustainability issues in the UK waterproofing industry. NWS believe that a significant factor that contributes towards this is also the general lack of existing sustainability and recycling initiatives in the industry, and so there are no companies or schemes that are driving waterproofing businesses, whether that be manufacturers, suppliers, distributors, or installers, to look at their own processes and seek to improve their sustainability.

As a result of this, NWS has also had to approach the improvements to their own sustainability performance from the perspective of almost complete newcomers, relying on making contacts in other industries and in the recycling industry to help improve their knowledge and bring in new ideas. With this in mind, the School has been invaluable in helping NWS improve their in-house expertise.

An essential part of Newton's sustainability & recycling initiatives process is to actively consult their staff in setting sustainability targets and creating a common purpose. Thanks to this period of development over several years, NWS now have annual sustainability goals as it relates to recycling and efficiency and have a wide range of policies relating to (amongst others) modern slavery, responsible sourcing and supply chain management, quality and environmental impacts.

## Impact:

- **Enhanced Reputation:** As a result of becoming a member of the school & by promoting their involvement, Newton Waterproofing Systems have been able to enhance their reputation in the waterproofing industry as leaders in sustainability. Although it is still early days this is already leading to the organisation being involved in more projects, thanks primarily to their sustainability initiatives.
- **Increasing knowledge:** The use of the School's e-learning modules & learning pathways have enabled Newton Waterproofing Systems to improve their knowledge on different sustainability topics. This has also enabled the organisation to demonstrate to potential clients & main contractors that they are dedicated to improving their contribution towards sustainability issues in the built environment.
- **Upskilling internal colleagues:** The School has helped Newton Waterproofing Systems to continue to engage their staff in sustainability initiatives and new measures, as a way of raising awareness throughout the business but also making them active participants and beneficiaries. As a result, the organisation has managed to foster a more sustainable mindset within the wider business and have actively implemented staff ideas on how their environmental impacts can be improved/reduced. For example, installing over £25,000 worth of improvements to the Newton

## Fact box



### Company

Newton Waterproofing Systems

### Website

<https://www.newtonwaterproofing.co.uk/>

### Main contact

James Hughes – Marketing Director

### Services

Complete structural waterproofing service, design through to approved installation, high quality products, and industry-leading guarantees.

### About

Established in 1848 Newton Waterproofing Systems are the oldest and largest independent designers and suppliers of guaranteed structural waterproofing systems in the UK. Newton Waterproofing Systems is a trading name of John Newton & Company Ltd.

office and warehouse space to make it a more energy-efficient, comfortable, and sustainable space in which staff spend their working day.

## Value gained:

Newton Waterproofing Systems have gained value from being a Supply Chain Sustainability School member through:

- **Accessible learning**
- **Meeting client's requirements**
- **Increasing brand awareness**
- **Demonstrating commitment to sustainability**
- **Improved knowledge of best practice**
- **Benchmarking knowledge**



## Future Proofing:

One of the obvious benefits that Newton Waterproofing Systems have not been able to take advantage of so far is the ability to attend live face-to-face training and networking events. The organisation thinks this would be able to deliver real benefits to them by allowing them to speak to other like-minded School members, exchange ideas and get inspiration. Also, as the first waterproofing industry member of the school, it is clear that there are areas of the construction industry that could benefit from greater engagement, expanding the School's member base and enabling like-minded, similar businesses in these niche areas to network and help each other out.