

Unit FM4.19: Understanding sustainability and environmental issues and their impact on facilities management

The assessment criteria form part of the unit and specify the standard that a learner is expected to meet to demonstrate that the learning outcomes within the unit have been achieved. The additional guidance, which is shown in brackets and italics alongside the assessment criteria, does not technically form part of the unit, in that it is not included in the reference version of the unit shown by the Register of Regulated Qualifications. The additional guidance is provided to illustrate how the assessment criteria might be interpreted. The BIFM will generally expect assessors to interpret the assessment criteria as described, or to an equivalent level of demand.

Aim of the unit:

This unit enables learners to develop their understanding of corporate responsibility and the importance of sustainability and environmental issues and how facilities management impacts on the environment. The unit also develops understanding of the principles and methods of waste management

Title:	Understanding sustainability and environmental issues and their impact on facilities management	
Level:	4	
Credit value:	3	
Learning outcomes	Assessment criteria	
<i>A learner when awarded credit for this unit will:</i>	<i>Assessment of this learning outcome will require a learner to demonstrate that they can:</i>	
1. Understand sustainability and corporate responsibility	1.1 Explain the terms sustainability and corporate responsibility (<i>including the wider relationship between the organisation, its stakeholders and the community</i>) 1.2 Explain the legislation that is associated with sustainability and environmental issues (<i>supporting the explanation with examples of specific legislation (e.g. waste management) and of relevant broader legislation and agreements (e.g. building regulations, town & country planning, Kyoto)</i>) 1.3 Explain the role and responsibility that a	

	<p>Facilities Manager has in supporting a corporate responsibility policy <i>(supporting the explanation with examples of relationships (e.g. with employees, suppliers, neighbours, local community etc.) and of specific responsibilities (e.g. for ISO 14001, environmental management systems, Carbon Trust certification)</i></p>
<p>2. Understand the impact of facilities management on the environment</p>	<p>2.1 Explain the range of impacts of facilities management activities on the environment <i>(supporting the explanation with examples (e.g. potential impacts on greenhouse gases, pollution, resource depletion, biodiversity) rather than trying to provide an exhaustive list)</i></p> <p>2.2 Explain how the Facilities Manager can mitigate, reduce or manage the impact of their activities on the environment <i>(supporting the explanation with example/s from the learner's own experience and/or case studies)</i></p> <p>2.3 Explain the environmental advantages and disadvantages inherent within the various resources utilised by Facilities Managers <i>(supporting the explanation with example/s from the learner's own experience and/or case studies and including how the same activity can have a positive and a negative impact)</i></p> <p>2.4 Explain new and on-going developments in environmental management and explain how these may affect Facilities Managers <i>(using to up-to date reference sources and examples rather than trying to develop an exhaustive list)</i></p>
<p>3. Understand how to manage waste and its safe disposal</p>	<p>3.1 Explain the principles of waste minimisation <i>(by reference to the 3R's – reduce, reuse, recycle)</i></p> <p>3.2 Describe methods and systems used to manage waste <i>(using example/s from</i></p>

	<p><i>the learner's own experience and/or case studies)</i></p> <p>3.3 Identify the relevant legislation in relation to handling, transporting, treating and disposing of waste (<i>by reference to the same example/s as for the previous assessment criterion)</i></p>	
4. Understand how to improve environmental awareness and responsibility	<p>4.1 Explain how the Facilities Manager can influence uses of natural resources, consumption and emissions control to improve the environment (<i>supporting the explanation with example/s from the learner's own experience and/or case studies (e.g. monitoring consumption, promoting better use of space and assets, encouraging use of video conferencing), rather than trying to develop an exhaustive list)</i></p> <p>4.2 Explain how the Facilities Manager can increase awareness and involvement of staff, contractors and suppliers in relation to environmental policies and sustainability (<i>supporting the explanation with example/s from the learner's own experience and/or case studies (e.g. environmental committee, publicising initiatives, targets and results, including in senior management and supplier review agenda), rather than trying to develop an exhaustive list)</i></p>	
Unit expiry date	31st October 2017	
Unit reference number	R/601/2134	
Link to National Occupational Standards	FM419	
FM Professional Standards reference	FM functional area:	FM functional area component:
	Strategy and Policy Development	Corporate Social Responsibility

	Business Continuity and Compliance	Compliance
	Sustainability	Environment Management

Resources:

Sustainable Practice for the Facilities Manager by Sunil Shah
The Principles of Sustainability by Simon Dresner
Making Sustainability Work: Best Practices in Managing and Measuring Corporate Social, Environmental and Economic Impacts by Marc J. Epstein
Sustainability Indicators: Measuring the Immeasurable? by Simon Bell and Stephen Morse
Strategy for Sustainability: A Business Manifesto by Adam Werbach
People, Planet, Profit: How to Embrace Sustainability for Innovation and Business Growth by Peter Fisk
Solid Waste Management and Environmental Remediation (Environmental Remediation Technologies, Regulations and Safety) by Timo Faerber and Johann Herzog
Essentials of Environmental Management by Paul Hyde and Paul Reeve
Environmental Law by Nancy K. Kubasek and Gary S. Silverman
Understanding Environmental Issues by Susan Buckingham and Mike Turner
Environmental Law by Prof John McEldowney and Mrs Sharron McEldowney
Waste Management (Environment in Focus) by Cheryl Jakab
Waste Management by Hilary Stone
www.sustainabilityinfm.org.uk
www.bifm.org.uk
FM World - www.fm-world.co.uk
Facilities Management Journal - www.mpp.co.uk
Facilities Management Excellence - www.fmxmagazine.co.uk