SCOPE: Planning support, MEP and Sustainability.
After years of low energy and environmental focused engineering design the needs of the user have often been forgotten. We carefully consider both the current and future social and environmental factors at play to design innovative solutions for our clients and their building occupants.

Designing for the future is not about saving the planet – earth is here to stay – it’s about saving people. We seek to balance social, health, wellbeing, energy and environmental factors and put the human livability element back into design.

This unique focus on the end users, combined with our passion for technical design helps us create inspirational schemes that are fit for purpose, environmentally robust and are advantageous economically both to build and operate.

Problems like poor health; loss of productivity; complex building monitoring and control failures; exposure to air pollution and the requirement for extensive alterations to satisfy increasingly flexible spaces are often consequences of inappropriate engineering strategies.

We design for...

human centric design for the built environment

After years of low energy and environmental focused engineering design the needs of the user have often been forgotten.

Problems like poor health; loss of productivity; complex building monitoring and control failures; exposure to air pollution and the requirement for extensive alterations to satisfy increasingly flexible spaces are often consequences of inappropriate engineering strategies.

We carefully consider both the current and future social and environmental factors at play to design innovative solutions for our clients and their building occupants.

Designing for the future is not about saving the planet – earth is here to stay – it’s about saving people. We seek to balance social, health, wellbeing, energy and environmental factors and put the human livability element back into design.

This unique focus on the end users, combined with our passion for technical design helps us create inspirational schemes that are fit for purpose, environmentally robust and are advantageous economically both to build and operate.

Traditional services delivered personally, simply and brilliantly

- MEP Engineering
- Sustainability
- Structural Engineering
- Environmental Engineering & Analysis
- Health & Well-Being Consultancy
- Planning Support
- Air Quality & Thermal Comfort Consultancy
- Post Occupancy Management & Evaluation
- Research & Development
Academic studies, reinforced by case studies, have shown the performance and productivity of occupants is strongly linked to environmental parameters. Providing the right thermal comfort, light and air quality has been shown to increase performance by potentially up to +20%.

We design for...

healthy and happy buildings

When occupants are excited by their space they embrace it and use it more efficiently – reducing the impact on the planet, improving productivity and lowering operational expenditure. The needs of the occupant’s health and well-being are paramount in our design approach, we always ask the question “how can we increase happiness and well-being both psychologically and physically?”

To achieve this we strongly believe that it is vital to design...

... for true thermal comfort – the combined perception of air temperature, air movement, humidity, and personal behavior rather than just air temperature alone.

... with an appreciation of how both artificial and natural light affects humans circadian rhythm and its effect on occupants health and performance.

... with a better understanding - attained from our ongoing research and collection of data within the built environment.

Typical building operating costs:

1% Energy costs
+/- 10% variation = +/- 0.1%

9% Rental costs
+/- 10% variation = +/- 0.9%

90% Staff costs in salaries & benefits
+/- 10% variation = +/- 9.0%

When occupants are excited by their space they embrace it and use it more efficiently – reducing the impact on the planet, improving productivity and lowering operational expenditure.

Academic studies, reinforced by case studies, have shown the performance and productivity of occupants is strongly linked to environmental parameters. Providing the right thermal comfort, light and air quality has been shown to increase performance by potentially up to +20%.

PROJECT: Citizen M Bankside Hotel. ARCHITECT: Concrete. SCOPE: MEP and Sustainability.

#wedesignforpeople
The failings of the UK Government to tackle illegal levels of air pollution are frequently highlighted in the news. Our ongoing air quality testing of buildings has consistently proven that in the urban environment there are often non compliant, high levels of pollutants within indoor air.

Air quality monitoring at all stages of a project is critical and we must work with data from a variety of sources to build a comprehensive picture.

Through continued innovation, we have been at the forefront of advising authorities and engineering highly effective solutions to this politically charged issue.

Without exemplary levels of air quality monitoring and control, there is a strong argument that natural and mixed mode strategies may be viewed – for the foreseeable future – as a poor choice compared to mechanical ventilation systems with appropriate levels of filtration and purification applied.

CIBSE Journal February 2017, Pete Carvell & Mohamad Tabatabaei, H&V News Award Winners 2017

AML = Annual mean limit = World Health Organization (WHO) Guidelines as adopted by the Greater London Authority (GLA)
Biophilia is of ever increasing importance to people’s health and well-being and plants are nature’s air purifiers.

Working in collaboration with Biotecture and Oliver Heath Design we continue to develop and improve a range of active green wall products to measurably improve air quality. Testing to date has shown the active wall to be 100% effective at removing harmful NO₂ and Particulate Matter within a space; and ‘single pass’ testing by BRE has certified the wall to be up to 56% effective at VOC removal.

We have been very impressed by We Design For’s dedication, professionalism and ability to find innovative solutions to complex problems.

Michael Hall, Biotecture
What constitutes a high performance building is the source of continuing discussion, however, one certainty in the modern built environment is that real life is often very different from theory.

The best considered solutions only work in reality if they help the occupant and are understandable. This may appear to be very simple, but in practice many buildings are failing simply because they are not being used correctly. The result is often a significant and measurable reduction in building efficiency, human health and performance.

We design for... actively challenge calculation procedures and prescribed assumptions of use. We seek ways to engage both our clients and end users to deliver tailored design solutions.

We know that usage patterns change and methods of conducting business, living and learning are constantly evolving. We encourage the gathering of data and monitoring not simply energy usage but the resultant environment throughout all design stages and post occupancy, to maximise value for our clients.

We innovate...

to close the gap

We can help you learn from any building and work with you to optimise actual performance.
We design for... fully embraces reducing consumption, minimising waste and lowering emissions to protect the inhabitants of our planet for future generations.

Sustainable design in our mind needs to be...

- **Specific** to the site, local environment, users and client;
- **Meaningful** makes real measurable environmental, social and economic improvements;
- **Agreed** understood and accepted;
- **Realistic** achievable and deliverable;
- **Timeless** fit for now and the future;

This approach generates the building blocks to create right solution for any project.

We design for... look at things differently. Sustainable design is not, and should not be achieved simply by ticking boxes on environmentally biased and relatively generic checklist.

Solutions that work... for both the planet and people.
Climate extremes alongside the call for reductions in air pollution will stimulate movement towards greener types of energy in the very near future. Electricity will become the primary form of energy, particularly in our cities. So why are some buildings still only designed to use fossil fuels?

We believe it’s just not acceptable practice to simply rely on an early stage energy calculation such as SAP or SBEM when designing for the future.

We design for... explores difficult questions and the impact of environmental factors. We help clients identify real lifetime costs of the project. Armed with our expertise, our clients are in a position to consider the future.

Rapid advances in technology allow us to easily gather data and analyse trends throughout design, construction and post occupancy stages to help us understand the built environment and its users. This informs our designs and ultimately improves building operation.

We design for... buildings that are resilient, robust, and timeless.

Sustainability, renewable energy, health, wellbeing, safety and the comfort and welfare of people in their working and living environments are all growing in complexity and importance and deserve careful consideration and analysis.

ARCHITECT: aLL Design.
SCOPE: Structural, MEP and Sustainability.

We design for... the future.
We design for...  
the past

We design for..., appreciates existing and historic building design. History, with all its success and failures helps us learn and define our future.

The UK is particularly rich in historic buildings with over 20% of its building stock constructed prior to the 1920’s.

We believe the character; cultural and economic value of our historic buildings can be sustainable into the future. Our expertise in understanding and retrofitting existing buildings, inclusive of historic buildings, ensures they are fit for the future.

Study the past if you would define the future.

Confucius

ARCHITECT: Sheppard Robson.  
SCOPE: MEP, Environmental, Sustainability and Planning Support.

“The We Design For... team’s dedication throughout ensured the client’s desires were achieved and resulted in the conception of a luxurious modern living space to complement the rusticity of the existing Grade I listed building. We very much look forward to future collaborations.”

Stephen Athanasiou - Purcell Architects

#wedesignforthepast