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An investigation into how project managers integrate waste management approaches in the UK construction industry.

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Introduction

- Sustainability in recent years has become a rising concern for the construction industry. Therefore as a result waste management has developed dramatically to mitigate the amount of waste pollution emitted to landfill.
- Project managers play a vital role in the implementation of waste management strategies into a construction project, introducing the most efficient approaches and managing the workforce correctly to achieve the optimal success of waste management integration.

“Environmental awareness is gradually improving but the industry needs to shake off a reputation of being reluctant to adopt environmental necessities.”
Stubbs, B (2008).

Aim of research

To evaluate how sustainability affects a project manager's role in the UK construction industry and investigate how project managers implement waste management approaches.

Objectives

1. To understand how sustainable legislation, regulations, policies and government set goals impacting project manager's
2. To evaluate the importance of project managers skills and experience of waste management and the methods of implementing waste management to a construction team who are inexperienced within waste management.
3. To critically analyse and contrast, in light of data analysis and literature findings, how project managers adopt waste management methods in construction whilst maintaining a financially viable project.

Methodology

- The study attempted to achieve its aim by focusing on a qualitative approach that was complimented by two research methods.
- **Eight semi structured telephone interviews** were conducted, using a set of ten questions that were selected through analysing the literature.
- Secondary data analysis was also utilised to examine one most appropriate **case study on waste management approaches** to support the results stated by the interview respondents.
- The interviewees were all project managers with no less than five years experience in construction.

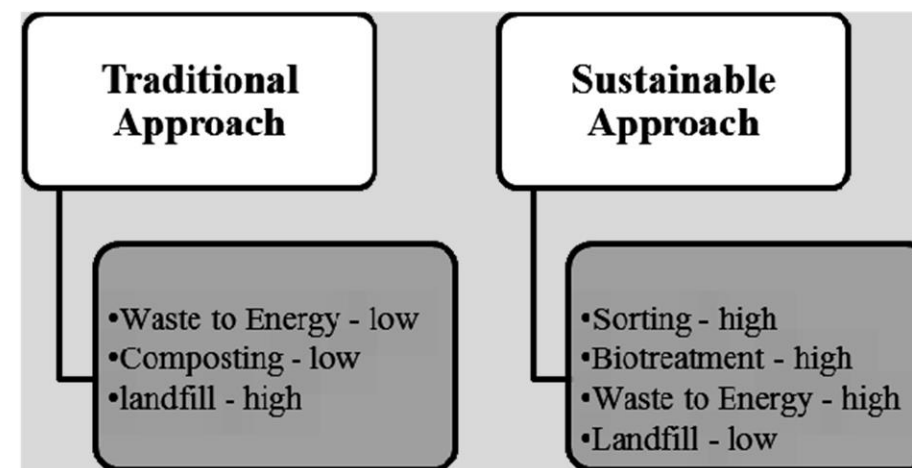


Figure 1 - Approaches Of Solid Waste Management. (2016)

Main findings and conclusion

- the majority of project managers agree that a good understanding, relevant experience and a range of skills for implementing waste management are beneficial although not necessary, whereby the interest and drive from both the project manager and workforce is an essential factor for successful integration.

Project managers play a huge role in motivating the workforce, they must possess a range of skills and have the ability to apply them correctly to successfully implement waste management approaches.

- economic performance will not compromise for waste management, the waste management strategy should correlate with economic and environmental aspects, to achieve a good waste management system, resulting in increased economic performance.

The results suggest that the client will ultimately determine how 'sustainable' they require the construction to be, having a big influence on the economic to environmental ratio.

- more in the way of primary and secondary legislation should be made apparent in waste management.

The main conclusion of the dissertation establishes that legislation and policies are deficient in majorly reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill. With researcher and respondents underlining direct financial incentives as a key driver for successful waste management integration.

The author also acknowledges the effects that Brexit and Covid-19 are likely to introduce, providing a topic for further research.

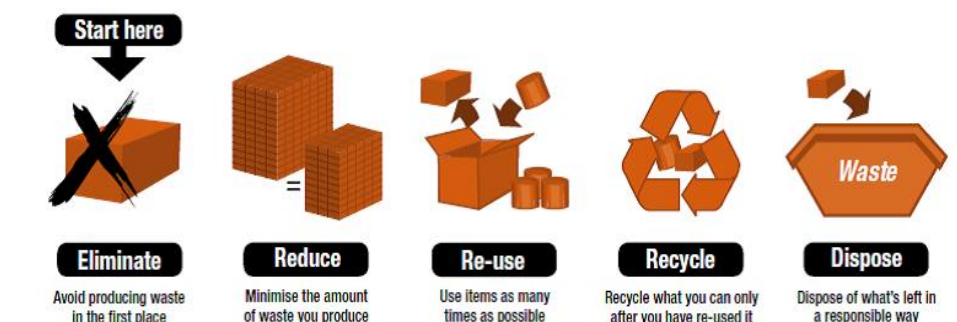


Figure 2 - Waste Management During Construction (2019)

Acknowledgements

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References

Stubbs, B. (2008). [online] Constructingexcellence.org.uk. Available at: <http://constructingexcellence.org.uk/2015/02>[Accessed 9 Dec. 2019].