We have taken a major step toward self-sufficiency by implementing sustainable power and water initiatives.

The installation of photovoltaic generation systems at our quarries allows us to generate our own power. We create 100 percent of our own electricity requirements at Bowdens Quarry in Somerset, and a further 20 percent at Downs Quarry in Purbeck. All surplus power is then fed back into the National Grid.

We have also invested in a water management system at the Downs Quarry site, including rainwater harvesting and water cleaning and recycling. The system uses a filter press that removes water from the production waste, resulting in ‘cake’. This lime-based by-product is then used for grassland improvement on restored or agricultural land, while the cleaned water is reused within the factory.

These endeavours have won us the Workshop/Premises prize at the Natural Stone Awards Sustainability Day, hosted by Stone Federation Great Britain.

We will continue to monitor and measure the results of our initiatives, assessing their impact on the reduction of our carbon footprint.