



# AICO'S SUSTAINABILITY PROGRAMME

As the **European market leader in home life safety**, we strive to deliver safer homes through engaging with our communities to educate and promote best practice.

'Aico in the Community' was developed to provide support to both local and national educational and charitable organisations in building sustainable futures for our communities.

Since launching 'Aico in the Community' in January 2018, the programme has been a great success and has grown significantly.

To achieve our goals, we take a **five pillar approach**.





## Marketplace

Building local partnerships and supporting community events and causes

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## Workplace

Fostering a positive, growth-oriented culture

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## Community

Investing in education, charities, and volunteering

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## Environment

Pursuing carbon neutrality through sustainable practices and ISO 14001

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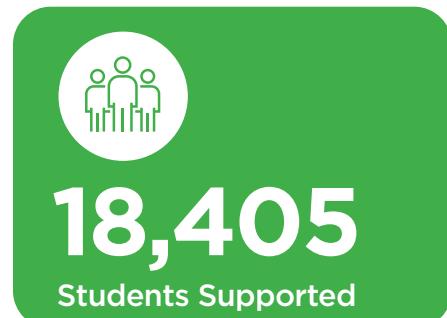
## Governance

Ensuring ethical operations through accreditations and transparent policies

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# ACHIEVEMENTS IN NUMBERS

Aico in the Community was developed in 2018 to support schools, colleges, charities and community organisations to achieve their goals and to help build a sustainable environment now and in the future. **So far we have achieved...**



\*Figures as of July 2025



Scan the QR code to keep  
up-to-date with our latest figures



# WHY AICO EMBRACED CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

**A** Aico in the Community was developed to give back to communities and to help make a difference. We are a strong company and very fortunate to be in a position to dedicate time and resources to support charities and organisations. We understand the pressures that charities, businesses and schools are under and how important it is that they get the support they need. It's about doing good.

Our Sustainability programme is very much led from the top – our culture, our values, behaviours and ways of working are apparent, all colleagues are keen to get involved, volunteering their time to support CSR projects and helping raise funds for chosen charities through challenges and more. Colleagues have multiple days allocated throughout the year for involvement in CSR events and everyone is encouraged to use them. **”**

Neal Hooper, Managing Director, Aico

# MEET THE COMMUNITY TEAM

We have three colleagues co-ordinating our CSR and Sustainability programmes on a full-time basis with support from a CSR committee, which includes colleagues from across the business.

**Jane Pritchard**  
CSR & Community  
Engagement Lead



“Through our initiatives, we’re dedicated to creating safer environments and sustainable futures, I’m proud of how much our programme has grown and the impact Aico makes in the community, thanks to everyone’s commitment.”

**Laura Opechowska**  
CSR & Community  
Engagement Lead



“I believe giving back is key. Strong communities pave the way for a brighter future. It’s amazing to see how our shared commitment expands our programme, helping us reach more people and make a genuine impact. Big changes really do start with small actions.”

**Ryan Evans**  
Sustainability Lead



“We put sustainability at the heart of Aico, shaping our workplace, people, and communities. We’re committed to minimising our environmental footprint and being a positive force for sustainability in every aspect of our work.”



“ The Marches Academy Trust is proud to work in partnership with Aico as a valued local supporter. Their exceptional facilities have played a vital role in enhancing staff professional development and enriching the curriculum for our young people. Aico’s ongoing commitment to community development aligns perfectly with our Trust’s vision of **‘Achievement Through Caring’**, and we are incredibly grateful for their continued support. ”

Mandy Jones, Executive Director of Education, The Marches Academy Trust



## Marketplace

**Building relationships** with local businesses and organisations is essential for sustainability within our community.

As patrons of the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce, we participate in local networking events to **strengthen connections** with various services. This allows local suppliers to bid for **new opportunities**.

Our Centre of Excellence in Oswestry, Shropshire is available, free of charge, to local organisations and charitable trusts in Shropshire. This enables them to host networking events and business meetings that **enhance** their work.





## WORKPLACE

We prioritise integrity, excellence, and teamwork, building a strong, collaborative culture. Colleague development is key, with structured support for career growth and apprenticeships.

We value wellbeing, offering programmes focused on mental and physical health. By investing in our people, we create a supportive environment where everyone can thrive.

“ Having the relaxation room available to me throughout my apprenticeship has been invaluable, providing a calm and quiet area for me to study during work hours. In addition, the gym facilities have allowed me to work on my physical health, which alongside having an adjustable desk, has improved my health and comfort. Both areas contribute to my **happiness** and mental **wellbeing** in and outside of work hours.”

Emily Duke, Technical Author, Aico





# COMMUNITY

Our Community pillar focuses on our CSR programme, **Aico in the Community**.

Aico in the Community provides support to both local and national, **educational and charitable** organisations in building **sustainable futures** for our communities.

This pillar is divided into three key areas, **Education, Charity, and Volunteering**. We are proud to support a selection of fantastic charities, community interest companies and educational organisations around Shropshire and beyond.



Scan here for our latest  
Community News

# EDUCATION

We believe in the power of education to shape **brighter futures**. We are deeply committed to providing tangible support and opportunities for children and young people.

Our student **work experience** programme offers invaluable insights into the working world. Students gain practical **experience** across various departments, actively participating in projects and collaborating with our dedicated colleagues.

Our team regularly volunteer at **career fairs, apprenticeship events**, and in classrooms, sharing their **expertise and passion**. We provide career advice and guidance, focusing on essential employability skills, positive attitude, and behaviour needed to thrive.





“ At The Priory School, we are **proud** to partner with Aico to help our students build **essential employability skills** and prepare for their futures. Through real-world experiences, such as visits to Aico’s offices and warehouses, students gain a deeper understanding of how business concepts are applied in the workplace.

Aico also delivers workshops that focus on key skills like leadership, teamwork, and resilience, ensuring our students are well-equipped for their careers. Additionally, events like the Apprenticeship Event, where Aico apprentices share their journeys, provide valuable insights into career pathways.

Together with Aico, we are committed to helping our students **succeed** beyond The Priory School. ”

Carol France, Business Studies Teacher, Priory School



**“Our Year 5 and 6 pupils absolutely loved the workshops on Fire Safety. They were engaging, educational and most importantly, really fun!”**

Lorna Campbell, Development Director, Moreton Hall

## FIRE SAFETY WORKSHOPS

We actively educate children and young people through Fire Safety Awareness Sessions, delivered by our colleagues in schools and at our Oswestry Centre of Excellence.

Aimed at all ages, these sessions provide essential training on fire hazards in the home and the dangers of Carbon Monoxide. This initiative, along with other activities reflecting our ethos, underscores our strong partnership with local schools and colleges.

# RESIDENT ENGAGEMENT

It is essential for residents to fully understand the risks of fire and carbon monoxide, as well as the importance of having high-quality alarms. To address this, Aico's Relationship Managers organise and participate in numerous resident engagement days aimed at **families and community** members across the UK.

Engaging with residents is a crucial part of our community efforts. These events are designed to **empower** and **educate** residents and encourage their involvement in a relaxed atmosphere, allowing them to freely ask questions about our alarms.



# VOLUNTEERING

We demonstrate our ongoing commitment to the community by building strong relationships with local organisations. Aico encourages colleagues to take time out of their regular working hours to volunteer and contribute to these community causes. Every team member is allocated three days each year for volunteering activities.



Our volunteering efforts include garden maintenance, food preparation, painting and much more.



## PROJECT SOS

Project SOS is a highly anticipated annual event within Aico in the Community. The programme offers local organisations the unique opportunity to transform their community-focused visions into reality.

Each year, Aico colleagues dedicate a full week to a single deserving organisation. Be it a school, community group, or charity, **no project is too big or too small**. From revitalising outdoor spaces like playgrounds and gardens to transforming community halls and classrooms.

Previous projects include the renovation of Longden Primary School's outdoor space and the renovation of Oswestry's Memorial Hall, demonstrating the tangible impact of Project SOS on our local community.

**“**I'm grateful to Aico volunteers; the Memorial Hall is more than a building, it is a community. This is the **beginning of a new and exciting chapter** in the hall's history, and we are welcoming more people through the doors.**”**

Paul Newman, Hall Manager, Oswestry Memorial Hall

# ELECTRICAL INDUSTRIES CHARITY

For many years, we have supported the Electrical Industries Charity (EIC), which provides **practical support and financial relief** relating to poverty, homelessness, and mental health for anyone working in the industry. The charity offers wellbeing solutions that can transform lives.

Aico colleagues have been involved in various fundraising challenges in support of the EIC.



Scan to learn more about the EIC



# SOME OF THE ORGANISATIONS WE HAVE SUPPORTED...





# ENVIRONMENT

Our commitment to sustainability is guided by a '**Measure, Reduce, Balance**' strategy, with a clear goal of achieving Carbon Neutrality by 2030. The Environment pillar of our Sustainability Programme is crucial to this, focusing on responding to the climate emergency and safeguarding the environment.

To demonstrate our commitment, we have signed both the Climate Pledge and the Zero Carbon Shropshire Pledge. Our goal is to raise awareness of the urgent need for climate action, address decarbonisation challenges, and share practical solutions for a sustainable future.

## Carbon Neutral Britain™



 CARBON OFFSET  
COAL EMISSIONS

To highlight our commitment to environmental responsibility, we've achieved a significant milestone in our journey towards carbon neutrality across Scope 1 and 2 emissions, offsetting 331 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e generated by these activities in 2024.

This achievement, certified by Carbon Neutral Britain™, represents a crucial step in our broader goal of achieving Net Zero across all Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions.



Our progress includes a **hybrid** or **full electric** company car policy, in addition to impactful packaging initiatives which eliminate plastic and reduce paper, saving **six to eight tonnes** annually. Furthermore, providing digital instructions via QR codes has cut paper usage by **38 tonnes**. Our eco-fit range within the 3000 Series further **reduces 100% of plastic packaging** by excluding unnecessary components. We are constantly looking to improve, with many exciting sustainability initiatives currently in development.

We have also implemented practical steps at our headquarters, with **four** of our seven acres dedicated to landscaping. A rooftop **solar array** supports our electricity needs, while an attenuation pond and harvesting rainwater minimises surface drainage. Over 2,500 square meters of wildflower meadow have been cultivated to support local pollinators.

Scan to find out more





# GOVERNANCE

Our Governance pillar helps ensure that we operate responsibly and ethically, providing a positive and comfortable workplace for colleagues.

We are committed to maintaining our **ISO accreditation** in various areas, including quality management, environmental management, and occupational health and safety. This demonstrates our commitment to continuous improvement and providing a **safe** and **healthy workplace**.

We have established key policies throughout the business that cover a wide range of topics and are designed to create a fair and inclusive workplace for all.

We have a Code of Conduct that all colleagues adhere to, whilst promoting **ethics and transparency** in all practices.





PLATINUM **Top 1%**

**ecovadis**

Sustainability Rating

**JUN 2025**

We proudly achieved an EcoVadis Platinum Rating, placing the company in the top 1% of over 150,000 businesses assessed globally for their sustainability and CSR performance.

This prestigious recognition highlights our comprehensive and values-driven approach across environment, labour and human rights, ethics, and sustainable procurement. It reflects a significant advancement in our commitment to building a sustainable future.



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# OUR FACILITIES

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Based at our Headquarters in Oswestry, our Centre of Excellence offers a versatile suite of facilities, including a fully equipped TV studio, a range of meeting rooms, and dedicated demonstration areas – all designed to support collaboration, education, and innovation across the industry.

Since opening in January 2015, the Centre has welcomed hundreds of organisations – from Housing Associations and Local Businesses to Electrical Wholesalers, Distributors, and wider supply chain partners. These events include networking, team-building activities, and specialist training. One key feature of our offering is the City & Guilds-accredited training programme, tailored to upskill professionals across the electrical and energy sectors. These sessions support technical development and foster stronger partnerships across the supply chain.

# BREAKOUT ROOM

Equipped with a bespoke integrated AV system including two 75" and one 55" TV screens, this space is ideal for smaller meetings, networking, and refreshment breaks, comfortably seating up to 60 people with dedicated refreshment areas and coffee machines.



# WORKSHOP

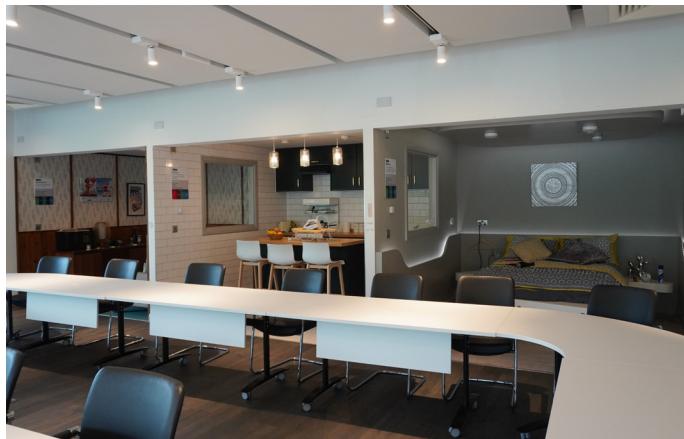
Seats up to 68 individuals for installation and wiring training. This fully equipped space allows close interaction with our products and hosts many City & Guilds sessions. Notably, it includes a purpose-built smoke chamber for live fire demonstrations, offering an innovative understanding of fire hazards and alarm sensor functionality.





## FLEXIBLE MEETING ROOM

Comfortably accommodates up to 40 people and is equipped with presentation facilities, including an interactive smart board, ideal for collaborative workshops, meetings, and training.



## EMBER PLACE

A fully furnished mock bungalow fitted with Aico alarms which provides an in-situ demonstration of our products. Featuring a 1960s themed living room, 1990s themed kitchen, and modern bedroom, it clearly illustrates optimal alarm placement and educates visitors on fire and carbon monoxide hazards.

# AUDITORIUM

Seating up to 116, perfect for larger presentations and conferences, featuring a 4m projector screen, 4k projector, an AV system, microphones, and electric blinds.



# THE CABIN

This unique cabin serves a dual purpose: it's a versatile meeting space and, crucially, a live demonstration of a connected home, featuring our products installed and fully operational in situ.





## MOBILE UNITS

Our mobile training and demonstration units extend our reach by bringing our products, technologies, and training directly to customers nationwide. They also facilitate resident engagement days. These units offer a comprehensive overview of Aico's products and solutions to any location across the UK, allowing hands-on experience and access to free educational training sessions.

We proudly offer our Centre of Excellence facilities, free of charge, to local organisations and trusts for their events and meetings.



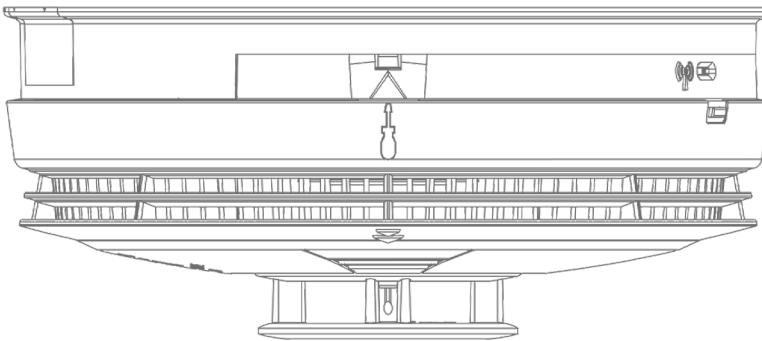
Scan the QR code to find out more about our Centre of Excellence and how to book.

# AICO'S COMMUNITY AWARDS

Biannually, we are proud to host our own Community Awards. This ceremony celebrates excellence across the entire supply chain, from Housing Associations to Electrical Apprentices. It is important that we recognise the outstanding work of individuals and organisations across the UK.







# ABOUT AICO

Aico, an Ei Company, established in 1990, is the European market leader in home life safety. We specialise in advanced fire and carbon monoxide alarms and a network of innovative environmental sensors, which are manufactured in Ireland. Complementing this, our cutting-edge Internet of Things software is developed in Bristol, enabling connected home technology solutions.

Our mission is to create safer, healthier, and more sustainable homes through both education and innovation. Our commitment extends beyond the product; we provide outstanding customer service and technical support, offering guidance from initial alarm specification through to comprehensive after-sales assistance on best practices and compliance.

We also believe in empowering communities with knowledge. Our award-winning Expert Installer course, industry training days, and fire safety sessions for schools and communities ensure widespread understanding of home safety.

A key part of our offering is our HomeLINK Connected Home Solution. This platform integrates advanced software with our sensors to provide invaluable data insights, meeting the unique needs of social landlords and residents by enhancing safety, improving property management, and promoting wellbeing.

As we look to the future, Aico remains dedicated to leading in technological advancements, promoting the highest safety standards, and actively engaging with communities to enhance home life safety.





**T** 01691 664100  
**E** [enquiries@aico.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@aico.co.uk)  
[www.aico.co.uk](http://www.aico.co.uk)



an Company

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