



Sandy Halliday, Principal, Gaia Research, Gaia Group

Sandy is a chartered engineer. Her first degree in Engineering Design & Appropriate Technology focussed on socially and environmentally responsible engineering. From her early involvements with the built environment sector she identified the need for building design to respond to stringent environmental criteria, and to user needs & aspirations for healthy buildings. She established Gaia Research in 1996 to develop sustainable solutions for the built environment. Sandy initially worked in design of socially useful products. She moved into the building services sector as a research manager to develop & disseminate information on passive design, resource efficient & clean technologies, healthy buildings, and benign construction processes, products & materials. Her work now extends to a hand-holding service to assist clients and design teams to deliver their aspirations for more sustainable buildings; as well as to research; policy guidance for government and private sector clients; and training. Particular strengths include policy setting, brief development, community consultation, passive design strategies, interdisciplinary education and the development of interdisciplinary tools (including feedback mechanisms) to support improvements in design and delivery. She is involved in the drafting of model briefs for sustainable developments from housing to schools and masterplans.