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Introduction

Environment and Economy are two dominant issues governing the 1990s. Although often viewed as competing interests, scrutiny of economic impacts associated with environmental initiatives clearly demonstrates that there can be a positive relationship between the two. The House of Commons' experience with its Greening the Hill programme provides several examples of environmental enhancements delivering economic benefits which exceed the associated costs.

In the three years since the programme's inception, Greening the Hill has maintained a balance between environmental and economic concerns. The programme reflects a serious commitment by the House of Commons to assume responsibility for the environmental impacts of its activities. This commitment has required the investment of both time and money. This review of the programme and its various components reveals that efforts by the House to improve the environmental quality of the workplace have also provided a financial bonus in the immediate and particularly in the longer term. It is hoped that this report provides the necessary incentive for others to carry out initiatives such as Greening the Hill.