



Ben Preston

HIP V. HYPE SUSTAINABILITY
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Better Buildings Lead at HIP V. HYPE Sustainability, Ben is passionate about pushing sustainability towards a Living Systems-based approach.

With a background in Energy and Environmental Engineering, Ben worked as a Services Design Engineer (specialising in Mechanical Engineering) in the UK before jumping ship to the sunny shores of Western Australia. After working as a Building Information Modelling Consultant with WSP and later Norman Disney & Young (NDY), Ben transitioned back to Services Engineering where he led multi-disciplinary design teams on projects including the HSBC and PwC fitouts in the Barangaroo South precinct. Ben then moved on to lead the sustainable design of the Victoria Police headquarters, the Alphington Village and the Plumbing Industry Climate Action Centre's (PICAC) Narre Warren facility, which was a benchmark project thanks to the integrated design process. The project included an Australian first heating and cooling system and a net zero design, both achieved at minimal additional capital cost.

Ben's desire to disrupt our perception of what's possible using design, engineering and a bit of creativity led him to join HIP V. HYPE Sustainability to lead the Better Buildings team.

Despite his training, the typical engineering view of the world – mechanical and fragmented; a series of disconnected parts – never really made sense to Ben. This, combined with a deep drive to understand the psychology of himself and those around him led Ben to explore several ways of seeing and understanding the world; from Jung to Freud, Zen Buddhism to Yoga, Integral Theory to Spiral Dynamics. Driven by a desire to explore and understand, Ben draws on his knowledge and experience to help others expand their thinking and re-imagine the potential outcomes of their work.

From studying with Regeneration, to completing the Centre for Sustainability Leadership Fellowship Program and now training with Margaret Wheatley, Ben's desire to understand and experience more deeply isn't slowing down. Ben's inquisitive nature led him to explore Living Systems Theory as a framework to view and develop places that mimic the way natural systems evolve and thrive, often described as Regenerative Design and Development.

Growing up in Northern Ireland instilled in Ben a deep appreciation of the value held by the quality of our relationships. For Ben, this is one of the essential ingredients to creating meaningful change and the future we collectively deserve.

Formal Qualifications

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- BACHELOR OF ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING (HONOURS), EDINBURGH NAPIER UNIVERSITY
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Professional Associations

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- PROFESSIONAL MEMBER, ENGINEERS AUSTRALIA
 - WELL ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL, INTERNATIONAL WELL BUILDING INSTITUTE
 - GREEN STAR ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL, GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA
 - LIVING BUILDING AMBASSADOR, INTERNATIONAL LIVING FUTURE INSTITUTE
 - LEED BD+C ACCREDITED PROFESSIONAL, US GREEN BUILDING COUNCIL
 - REGENERATIVE PRACTITIONER, REGENESIS
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