

Great Places Housing Group

Environmental Policy

Great Places manage more than 16,000 homes across the north west and beyond. We are committed to creating homes, not houses, and building cohesive, sustainable communities that have a positive impact on residents and the environment.

Responsibility

Great Places recognises its responsibility to tackle global warming and is not only addressing the challenge, but aims to lead the sector through innovation, adaptation, and education. We are committed to:

- Promoting sustainable development in all our business activities.
- Implementing an environmental management system.
- Complying with environmental legislation and regulations, along with any other requirements to which Great Places subscribes.

Objectives

To meet our commitment a set of objectives has been created:

- Implement sustainable principles throughout new developments.
- Major refurbishments will be completed according to good environmental practice.
- Seek to protect and enhance ecological features during maintenance and refurbishment works.
- Monitor and manage our consumption and use of energy.
- Set challenging targets to reduce our consumption of energy and water.
- Seek to reduce our annual waste produced and minimise waste to landfill from office operations and housing.
- Work with our suppliers to improve purchasing and supply of sustainable goods.

- Investigate opportunities to improve the environmental performance of our existing housing stock.
- Monitor and improve the environmental efficiency of travel associated with Great Places. Use technology, for example video conferencing, to reduce business travel.
- Develop staff and tenants' awareness of their environmental impacts and provide them with the means for its mitigation.
- Work with our suppliers to develop and promote an effective environmental policy.
- Implement and maintain an environmental management system that complies with ISO 14001.
- Commit to continual improvement in environmental performance and prevention of pollution.

Resources

The relevant resources and staff development will be made available to ensure the objectives are achieved.

Environmental performance indicators will be monitored by the environmental officer and reviewed at Green Places management meetings.

This environment policy will be reviewed annually and is publicly available. Its existence is promoted to all staff and tenants. For more information please contact environmental officer, Sarah McClelland on: 0161 447 5184.

Signed



Stephen Porter
Chief Executive



Ted Stott
Chairman

Approved by Great Places board
Wednesday 25 March 2010