

# Great Places Housing Group Environmental Policy

Great Places manage more than 15,000 homes across the North West and beyond and 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 and through implementation of an environmental management system to ensure compliance with legislation and other requirements.

## Objectives

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

- Implement sustainable principles throughout new developments
- Major refurbishments will be completed according to good environmental practice
- Monitor and manage our consumption and use of energy. Set challenging targets to reduce our consumption of energy and our contribution to emissions of gases and other pollutants which are believed to contribute to climate change
- Seek to reduce our annual waste produced and minimise waste to landfill from office operations and housing
- Investigate opportunities to improve the environmental performance of our existing housing stock
- Meet relevant environmental legislation and regulations and other requirements to which Great Places subscribes

- Install micro-generation energy production in offices and building designs to reduce reliance upon fossil fuels
- Monitor and improve the environmental efficiency of travel associated with Great Places
- Use technology, for example video conferencing and on-line workspace, to reduce business travel
- Develop staff and tenants' awareness of their environmental impacts and to 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 BS 8555 and enables 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 Environment 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 further information please contact Sarah McClelland, Environment Officer, 0161 447 5184.

## Signed



Stephen Porter  
Chief Executive



Ted Stott  
Chairman

Approved 24/07/2008

