# **Environmental Policy**



#### **Statement of Intent**

Cromwood Housing Group are committed to reduce and minimise the impact given from business operations upon the environment, whilst maintaining a high quality of service provision and promoting this ethos to all those who meet our organisation. This policy is applicable throughout the organisation and to all activities undertaken surrounding property management and maintenance.

There are 3 key areas that we support throughout our business values and aims to promote to all who have an involvement with Cromwood, these are summarized as:

REDUCE – To ensure the intelligent use of resources and where possible and practical minimise waste, energy and water consumed to reduce the impact upon the environment

REUSE – To reuse all products where possible and maximise the life of equipment/products, i.e. use of paper twice (as scrap paper) prior to recycling or disposal. Use of renewal energy sources such as 'green' gas and electric tariffs (where available)

RECYCLE – To use recycling facilities available instead of disposing of waste to landfill

Overall, our environmental impacts are small with office based activities and residential repairs and maintenance services. Our Environmental Objectives & Targets are set and reviewed on an annual basis as part of our management review.

## Resources

We feel the main resources / impact we have upon the environment consists of:

Paper - To support its workforce the company's administration department makes extensive use of information technology and minimises the volume of paper which it produces. What waste paper which is produced is shredded to protect personal data and sent for recycling where available

Travel - The company encourages the use of public transport and where mileage is incurred pays at a relatively low rate. Jobs are organized based on priority and the location to minimize mileage

Vehicles – All company vehicles are maintained and monitored, drivers being communicated 'environmental driving tips' and selected based on emissions performance

Supplies – When purchasing office products such as stationary we prefer to opt for the most environmentally friendly products where feasible

Equipment – Equipment is now purchased, considering its environmental impact and energy saving features. All computers and copies at the offices have been programmed to operate in the most efficient mode

Waste – All waste produced is kept to a minimum and recycled where facilities exist. Waste is disposed of through licensed waste disposal companies

Audits – As part of our internal audit programme, environmental issues are audited to ensure that the mechanisms in place are effective, relevant and on target

Tenant Occupation – Although, not under our direct control, we recognise that our portfolio of properties generates a substantial amount of carbon. It is an area we promote via tenant welcome/inductions as part of our influence.

Maintenance Operations – We have a maintenance team who have many supplies on board to reduce mileage by eliminating 2<sup>nd</sup> visits to the property. We also have a stock of energy efficient bulbs which are replacing incandescent bulbs as well as simple fixes such as fitting draft excluders and providing energy efficient boilers on replacement

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## **Employees**

Most employees show a keen interest in environmental issues and we are welcome their feedback and suggestions for improvement, which are fed into management reviews for possible implementation of ideas.

## **Environmental Compliance & Legislation**

We are committed as part of our adherence to the requirements of ISO14001 to compliance with all Environmental legislation applicable to the business and its operations, inclusive of the prevention of pollution and protection of the environment (a full list of applicable legislation has been identified with our legal register along with 'other' requirements and compliance obligations). We actively encourage elimination, reduction and recycling of products to ensure any waste produced is kept to a minimum. All products sourced will be sustainable/environmentally friendly where possible.

### **Management System**

We operate an internal management system which has been developed in alignment with ISO 14001. This has enabled us to develop an Environmental Impacts & Aspects register, Objectives & Targets and facilities to monitor and review our Environmental impact.

#### Communication

This policy is communicated to interested parties upon request, and internally via the company management system, displayed on notice board/issued to other parties working under our control.

### Review

This policy and it content are maintained and reviewed during management meetings or further to a change request from a client, supplier or interested party.

### **Procedures**

This Policy will be reviewed annually or further to any changes in legislation.

Signature:

Name: M Hirschler (Director)

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