

# Environmental Policy

**S**andwell Homes manages, on behalf of Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, some 29,272 homes and employs approximately 1198 people. As an employer, we recognise that we are a significant consumer of resources and that our operations can produce pollution. The environmental impact of our operations will be a core priority and be included in all board reports and incorporated in mandatory employee training and monthly team meetings / briefing sessions.

We will engage and work with our employees, tenants, partners and key suppliers to ensure that we acknowledge our responsibilities by preventing pollution and reducing our negative impact on the environment.

We will carry out our undertakings with due responsibility for the environment by promoting a culture where we:

- Are aware of our environmental impacts
- Have systems & processes to reinforce our commitments
- Continuously improve our performance through reviewing and setting challenging measurable objectives and targets
- Listen and seek people's views through community and relevant partnership involvement
- Communicate and promote this policy and our commitment to the environment
- Acknowledge and promote our environmental successes

We will implement an Environmental Management System and will conduct regular audits. In addition we will:

- Widely publicise our environmental performance on an annual basis
- Monitor and review our policy on an annual basis

We will:

- Comply with all relevant environmental legislation, regulations and other requirements
- Aim to use best practice by using the best available techniques and technologies in our operations and encourage others to follow our example through adherence to this policy
- Minimise the use of non-renewable energy
- Maximise the use of renewal energy
- Demonstrate the best use of water resources
- Minimise the impact of our operations on the built and natural environment including using materials and services that reduce adverse environmental impact
- Reduce, recycle and dispose of our waste properly and actively encourage our communities to dispose of waste responsibly
- Develop transportation strategies to reduce carbon emissions and adverse impact upon the environment

This policy has been created by a cross section of tenants, Sandwell Homes board members and employees. It has been defined and endorsed at the highest level to ensure that it is appropriate to the nature, scale and environmental impact of all Sandwell Homes operations.

The Environmental performance of our company will be reflected upon in our annual EMAS statement.

*+ David*

**The Rt Revd David Walker,  
Bishop of Dudley  
Chair of Sandwell Homes**

*PE Jew*

**Paul Field  
Interim Chief Executive**