

# **EastendHomes**

## **GREEN POLICY**

### **1. STATEMENT OF INTENT**

- 1.1 EastendHomes recognises the role organisations and individuals can play in environmental sustainability.
- 1.2 EastendHomes will consider the environmental impact in all its work and minimise that impact wherever and whenever possible.
- 1.3 EastendHomes will identify a 'green champion' in its workforce to ensure that the environmental effect of all policies and procedures are considered and decisions implemented.
- 1.4 EastendHomes is aware that it works in an area of multiple deprivation and that implementation of this policy should be primarily cost-effective.

### **2. WORKPLACE**

- 2.1 EastendHomes acknowledges that the workplace is a consumer of energy and that savings can be made in both the amount of energy used and the cost of that energy. EastendHomes will work with environmental organisations to identify where savings can be made within the office environment without detriment to working conditions. Where new office accommodation is being provided, detailed consideration will be given during the design and construction phases to appropriate measures supporting an energy-efficient workplace.
- 2.2 Energy supplied from environmentally sustainable sources will be preferred for all workplaces where appropriate, available and cost-effective.
- 2.3 EastendHomes will ensure that all waste paper and toner cartridges are recycled and will investigate recycling glass, plastics, cans and any other appropriate waste items. Any paper containing confidential information will be shredded prior to recycling so that the security of the data we hold on our residents, staff and partner organisations is not compromised.
- 2.4 Recycled products such as paper will be used in the office as standard, wherever cost and quality is competitive.
- 2.5 EastendHomes offices will use biodegradable 'green' cleaning products wherever possible.

### **3. ESTATES**

- 3.1 EastendHomes will work with the local council and recycling organisations to ensure that easily accessible recycling facilities are available to all our residents. This will include information of collection

dates and ordering for replacement 'pink bins' being available to residents from local housing centres.

- 3.2 EastendHomes will actively promote recycling and environmental sustainability amongst our residents. The EastendHomes 'Recycling' leaflet will be available as standard in local housing centres, and where appropriate EastendHomes will participate in community projects to promote recycling and environmental awareness.
- 3.3 The benefits of communities working together to improve estates is recognised and supported by EastendHomes. EastendHomes will seek to actively promote 'greening' of estates through measures such as community tree planting and the promotion of gardening clubs. Links will be made with organisations such as 'Trees for Cities' to achieve these aims.
- 3.4 The use of energy from renewable sources for communal heat and light will be introduced where cost-effective.
- 3.5 Initiatives using stand-alone sustainable means of producing energy such as solar power or wind turbines will be introduced where appropriate and cost-effective.

#### **4. DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION**

- 4.1 Assessment of contractors' policies on environmental issues will form a part of the tendering process for all major contracts.
- 4.2 The use of sustainable energy features such as solar panels and wind turbines will be considered for all new EastendHomes developments and refurbishment schemes.
- 4.3 EastendHomes will set annual targets to improve the average SAP (Standard Assessment Procedure) rating of EastendHomes tenanted properties, as improving the energy efficiency of these properties will make the heating of these homes both economically and environmentally more efficient for our residents.
- 4.4 The environmental impact of all materials and fixtures and fittings used in EastendHomes developments will be considered including whether they are from sustainable sources, and the length of journey from origin.
- 4.5 'Modern methods of construction' will be considered for all new EastendHomes developments to minimise environmental impact of the development works.