



*1986-2016: Celebrating 30 years working in the community*

<b>Policy on :</b>	<b>Environmental Sustainability Policy</b>
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<b>Compliant with Regulatory framework :</b>	<b>Relates to the Social Housing Charter indicators, our Business Plan objectives, and our wider community responsibilities.</b>
<b>Compliant with Tenant Participation Strategy :</b>	<b>n/a</b>
<b>Compliant with Equal Opportunities :</b>	<b>Commitment within policy</b>
<b>Compliant with Budget/Business Plan :</b>	<b>Overarching commitment to our Business Plan, strategic and operational objectives</b>

<b>Date for approval</b> <b>Date for review :</b>	<b>March 2019</b> <b>March 2022</b>
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<b>Responsible Officer :</b>	<b>Corporate Services Manager</b>
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## **Environmental Policy**

Barrhead Housing Group recognises that our economic, social and civic responsibilities are central to our activities and that the Group's core business operations have the potential to positively impact upon the environment, health and prosperity of our employees, customers and the communities within which we operates.

In support of this, Barrhead Housing Group wishes to play a central role in protecting and enhancing sustainability locally and nationally, by ensuring that this principle underpins all our operations and activities. Barrhead Housing Group is committed to create a difference by:

- a)** Reducing the Group's carbon emissions through efficient and responsible use of energy and water and by promoting resource efficiency associated with day-to-day activities and new developments.
- b)** Preventing pollution whenever possible by reducing emissions & discharges and minimising waste production as far as is practicable by reusing or recycling waste where appropriate. We encourage recycling through the provision of recycling bins and seek to recycling all our office waste, print cartridges, toners and computers.
- c)** Protecting natural habitats and local wildlife and conserving biological diversity.
- d)** Embedding the principles of environmental stewardship and sustainability as appropriate within our staff training activity.
- e)** Continually improving Barrhead Housing Group's environmental performance through the development of environmental objectives and targets.
- f)** Monitoring and auditing the Group's environmental performance and practice at regular intervals.
- g)** Ensuring Barrhead Housing Group complies with applicable legal requirements.
- h)** Increasing awareness of environmental responsibilities among staff and the wider community.
- i)** Participating in dialogue to build partnerships with local community and national organisations to reduce the Group's environmental impact within the communities within which our core activities take place.

**j)** Seeking to influence our suppliers and contractors through sustainable procurement practices, an objective of which will require sustainable issues and waste management policies to be considered in the procurement of all goods and services supplied to Barrhead Housing Group.

**k)** Minimise our environmental impact that wider community engagement and Community Regeneration projects that have an effect on the environment

**l)** Promoting conservation of all resources by the use of sustainable resources and by increasing the use of recycled and recyclable material, increasing the recycling of materials and decreasing the use of resources such as water and energy where it is practicable to do so

**m)** Seeking to integrate sustainability measures at all stages of the property development / new build process

**n)** Making this Policy available to the public and communicating it to all parties working for or on behalf of Barrhead Housing Group.

### **General**

This Environmental Sustainability Policy will be reviewed as required to take account of any legislative or good practice changes. A series of targets and key performance indicators will be identified and reported in the Group's annual review(s) to our customers and Scottish Housing Regulator. Progress on achievements will be reviewed and reported to the Barrhead Housing Group's Board(s) on an annual basis.

### **Equalities**

Barrhead Housing Group is committed to fair and equal opportunities for all and without discrimination. The policy sits within our overall commitments on equalities and diversity through separate policies and our Equalities statement.

## Appendix 2

### Environmental Sustainability – Draft Performance Measures

Reduction in office energy usage (either cost reduction or converted to tonnes of CO2 emitted). Supported by switch off campaign
Reduction in business travel – mileage reduction or cost of mileage
% increase in recycling rates within office
Stock – energy efficiency %ESSH or % energy efficient SHQS
Paper usage reduction and/or reduction in printing (volume/cost/colour/2 sided)
Water consumption. Staff switching from bottled water (provide with re-useable bottles)
Sustainable Travel. Cycle/walk to work. Use of public transport etc
New developments and refurb's – energy efficiency measures specified/installed
%age of staff signed up to behaviour change – water/energy etc