

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

Date for approval Date for review :	March 2017 March 2022
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Responsible Officer :	Director
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Environmental Policy

Paisley Housing Association recognises that its economic, social and civic responsibilities are central to its activities and that the Association's core business operations have the potential to affect the environment, health and prosperity of its employees, customers and the communities in which it operates.

In support of this belief, Paisley Housing Association wishes to play its part in protecting and enhancing sustainability locally, by ensuring that, where efficient to do so, this principle underpins all its operations and activities. Paisley Housing Association is committed to create a difference by:

a) Reducing the Association's carbon emissions through efficient and responsible use of energy. We are building up a 100% stock profile of the energy efficiency of our stock via Energy Performance Certificates which informs our planned maintenance programme. This planned maintenance programme ensures energy efficient heating systems in our stock and indicates where enhanced insulation (IWI, EWI) is practical.

We promote resource efficiency associated with new developments, and day-to-day activities, including general office behaviour such as switching off computers and lights.

b) Using a collaborative framework (i-FLAIR) for most of our planned maintenance activities. Contractors were required to have demonstrated their commitment to environmental management by having BS EN ISO 14001/EMAS or equivalent as part of the framework qualification process.

c) Limiting pollution whenever possible by reducing emissions & discharges and minimising waste production as far as is practicable by reusing or recycling waste where appropriate. This is done by our use of a social enterprise company, and charity, OSKAR for the disposal/recycling of all bulk items from our tenanted or factored properties. Where possible, we also recycling all of our office waste, print cartridges, toners and computers.

d) Minimising the impact of transport on the environment through the adoption of a Paisley Housing Association sustainable travel plan for staff (which promotes the use of public transport, walking while at work and a 'Cycle to Work' scheme).

e) Embedding the principles of environmental stewardship and sustainability within the Association's staff training and for residents through availability of advice on environmental matters.

f) Continually improving Paisley Housing Association's environmental performance through the annual development and review of environmental objectives and targets. We have a 5 year budget commitment to environmental improvement projects in each of our stock areas which started in Glenburn in 2016/17.

g) Monitoring and auditing the Association's environmental performance and practice annually.

h) Meeting and where appropriate applying more stringent standards to ensure Paisley Housing Association complies with applicable legal requirements.

i) Increasing awareness of environmental responsibilities among staff and the wider community e.g. by promoting the recycling of unwanted items and recycling of bulk items uplifted from our properties

j) Participating in dialogue to build partnerships with local community and national organisations to reduce the Association's environmental impact within the area we operate.

k) Providing energy efficiency advice and support to our customers.

l) Funding and facilitating wider community engagement and employability projects that have an environmental impact; such as Green in Glenburn, our Estates Team Pilot Project, annual garden competitions and balcony growing in our high rise.

m) Making this Policy available to the public and, where relevant, communicating it to all parties working for or on behalf of Paisley Housing Association.

General

This Environmental Policy will be reviewed no longer than every 5 years to take account of any legislative or good practice amendments. A series of targets and key performance indicators will be identified and detailed in the Association's Policy. Progress on achievements will be reviewed and reported to the Paisley Housing Association's Management Committee on an annual basis.

Equalities

The Association 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.