

The Gateshead Housing Company

Environmental Policy Statement

Our commitment to environmental excellence

The Gateshead Housing Company provides housing and support services to local communities in the Borough of Gateshead and we manage in excess of 21,500 properties.

A large part of our service is delivered on our behalf by partner organisations and we recognise the importance of these organisations in helping us to achieve environmental excellence.

On 28 June 2010 the housing company was certified as meeting the international ISO 14001 standard for environmental management systems.

Vision

Our vision is to improve the lives of our residents in their communities by providing first class and locally accountable housing and support services by continuing to reduce our carbon footprint through the adoption of sustainable practices.

Commitment

We are committed to promoting sustainable development as a cornerstone of our business strategy and we will actively seek to participate in the implementation of local initiatives.

The company is committed to compliance with legislation, to pollution prevention and to the continual improvement of environmental performance throughout our operations, services and activities.

Objectives

We have established a programme to review and monitor our significant environmental effects and to enable us to reduce those impacts we have

adopted a set of objectives that will provide the focus for improvement.

These objectives include:

- The promotion of sustainable principles in new development
- Minimising waste from our business operations
- Extending energy and water efficiency principles in our building design
- Seeking opportunities to improve the conditions of our housing stock and their immediate surroundings
- Promotion of sustainable transport policies among employees and customers
- Provision of energy saving, waste minimisation and water conservation advice to our customers
- Encouraging environmental awareness of our employees and customers
- Reduction of environmental risk arising from accidents and business activities
- Creation, maintenance and promotion of environmental purchasing principles in our business activities and for the benefit of our customers
- Promotion of improved environmental performance by our contractors and suppliers.

Copies of this policy statement will be made freely available to all interested parties and its existence will be promoted to employees, customers and representatives of the local communities in which we operate.



Barbara Dennis OBE DL,
Board Chair of The Gateshead Housing Company



Jon Mallen-Beadle,
Managing Director

Date: June 2013

