

Environmental Sustainability Policy

1. Policy statement This policy sets out Bromford's approach to protecting the environment and creating environmentally sustainable homes.

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Introduction Globally we are consuming resources and polluting the planet at a level 40% higher than the earth can renew or absorb. The Climate Change Act 2008 imposes targets to achieve a mandatory 80% cut in the UK's carbon emissions by 2050, and 34% by 2020.

The Bromford Approach Bromford is committed to making a positive contribution to environmental sustainability. We support the principles of 'One Planet Living' where people can live happy, healthy lives within the natural limits of the planet. We will deliver excellent services but face increasing pressure to reduce costs and achieve more for less. Our existing homes will be maintained to a high standard and, where homes are not sustainable or viable, we will dispose of them, investing in new stock. Our new homes will be of good quality and efficient but we will achieve a realistic balance between providing a reasonable number of quality new homes against providing homes that are defined as 'exemplar'. However, by working with partners we will share and learn from the best practice to work towards zero carbon emissions.

Bromford as an Employer As a major employer, we will consider the environmental impact of our practices, developing specific improvement targets, and will influence behaviour change.

Our Customers Our customers have experienced the impact of the credit crunch, reduced income following welfare reform and increased energy prices. Bromford will work with customers to adapt their lifestyle and circumstances to manage on diminished resources until they can find work and be the best that they can be. This philosophy is summarised by the Bromford Deal. Increasingly we will provide advice, information and guidance online, and more of our services will be available via the web and social networking to reflect the changes in society and 'digital by default'.

The Greener Bromford Plan Our key targets and ambitions are summarised in the Greener Bromford Plan which is monitored by a core group of 'Green Champions' drawn from across the business. Bromford benchmarks its performance against other affordable housing providers using the Sustainable Homes Index for Tomorrow (SHIFT).