

# Sustainable Construction Policy



**We aim to be a trusted partner of choice, working with stakeholders to deliver a more prosperous and climate resilient future for all.**

## **We are committed to:**

- Using best practice to design climate resilient buildings that have a lower impact on the environment during their operation.
- Aiming to certify at Post Construction to the highest practicable BREEAM, HQM, CEEQUAL and EPC ratings on all our new developments, where relevant.
- Working with our contractors to monitor the sustainability of the on-site construction process, on all construction projects, using the following sections from the BREEAM Model or similar scheme:
  - Considerate Construction
  - Construction Site Impacts
  - Responsible Sourcing of Materials
  - Construction Waste Management
- For projects using BREEAM, they must achieve a minimum of 55% (Very Good) of all possible credits under the above four sections, and aspire to 70% (Excellent), where practical to do so. Maximum credits for Considerate Construction and Construction Site
- Impacts should be targeted as well as credits for Responsible Sourcing of Materials and Construction Waste Management.
- Requiring major construction contractors to demonstrate targeted training and recruitment in support of local job creation and to stimulate local business growth.
- Communicating the features and benefits of climate resilient, innovative, sustainable buildings to current and future occupiers, as well as our own people.
- Reviewing our Sustainable Construction Policy annually.
- Auditing our Business Units against the commitments in this policy.

## **We will address sustainable construction in all aspects of our business including:**

### **Governance issues**

- The Sustainability Forum shall provide guidance to ensure the delivery of the commitments in this policy.
- We will encourage ownership of environmental performance at a business and project level in construction projects.
- Procurement for new developments will be aligned with the Sustainable Procurement Policy.

### **We will continually improve by:**

- Ensuring that construction projects embed sustainable practices by applying the Development Director Toolkit.
- Ensuring that whole life costs, including financial and carbon appraisals, are considered in a timely manner and properly quantified, where practical to do so.

- Encouraging our Business Units to assess social value throughout the lifecycle of our development projects.
- Integrating sustainability indicators into project tenders to ensure consistent measuring, monitoring and reporting on the sustainability performance of construction projects.
- Introducing a formal process for enabling apprenticeship opportunities through our contractors' and our own activities.
- Understanding how we can have a positive impact on the health and well-being of occupants through good building design.
- Understanding how to increase BREEAM Land Use and Ecology credits in our projects.
- Integrating biodiverse Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) into our developments where possible.
- Ensuring key contractors are clear on our sustainability aspirations and they have the expertise to aid delivery