



ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY STATEMENT

Groundwork Solent (the Trust) is part of a national federation of charitable trusts throughout the UK whose aim is to build sustainable communities in areas of need through joint environmental action. The Trust is committed to bringing about sustainable improvements to the local environment and to contribute to economic and social regeneration. In working towards these objectives and BS8555 certification, it endeavours to prevent pollution and meet or surpass all applicable legislation and other requirements to ensure the protection of its employees, the community at large and the environment. The Trust intends to set, improve and review its environmental standards on a continual basis.

The Trust recognises that its activities will impact on the environment and will strive to carry out all operations in an environmentally sensitive manner. Where practicable the Trust will seek to follow good environmental practice on purchasing, energy use, transport and waste management.

The Trust will ensure that environmental training is provided to all staff and volunteers and partners are encouraged to work to this or a similar policy. As part of this policy the following objectives and targets have been set, reflecting the most significant environmental aspects of its operations:

- To seek to reduce car and van business miles per member of staff by 10% by end of March 2009, thereby reducing the Trust's carbon emissions;
- Continue to develop and formalise a *Green Suppliers Database* by December 2008 and aim to purchase 20% of our office and project based materials/equipment from accredited green suppliers;
- Ensure all contractors are working to the Trust's environmental standards by continuing to develop and formalise a select list of environmentally compliant contractors by December 2008;
- Reduce office energy use by a further 5% per staff member on 07/08's figures by end of March 2009;
- Reduce office paper consumption by a further 3% per staff member on 07/08's figures by end March 2009;
- To continue to ensure all potentially hazardous substances are stored according to the Trust's environmental standards and all staff and volunteers are aware of the spills procedure;
- To begin to monitor the tonnage of waste diverted from landfill on landscaping projects implemented by the Trust;
- To ensure that negative environmental impacts from the use of project site machinery are mitigated and avoided as far as possible;

This policy encompasses the environmental policy objectives of Groundwork UK and has the support of the Board, staff and volunteers of the Trust and is communicated to all interested parties and stakeholders and contractors. The Executive Director is responsible for implementing this policy and communicating it to each employee.

This policy is subject to regular review to endure that it continues to reflect the aims of the Trust and promotes continuous environmental improvement throughout the Trust's operations.

Signed

Tim Houghton
Executive Director

Hazel Warwick
Chair