

## **Policy Statement in Support of Environmental Sustainability**

### **The statement:**

- applies to all County Heating activities, such as:
  - BEMS operational and support services
  - planned and routine maintenance
  - reactive/call-out service
  - electrical/mechanical installation
  - office and administrative fields
- is consistent with the United Kingdom's commitment to sustainability development; County Heating's policy on Health, Safety and Welfare requirements
- and will be reviewed and revised as necessary

### **Responsibility**

Responsibility for integrating environmental considerations into estate management and other operational areas within County Heating such as the above is taken by Mark Mingo, Director of County Heating.

All County Heating employees and its contractors are required to follow the principles of this policy, related guidance and arrangements to assist County Heating in meeting its objectives.

### **Aims**

County Heating aims to continually improve its environmental performance by:

- conserving energy, water, wood, paper and other resources-particularly those which are scarce or non-renewable – while still providing a safe and healthy working environment;

- reducing waste at source and by re-use and recycling, using refurbished and recycled products and materials, where such alternatives are available and suitable for use.
- monitoring discharges and emissions to air, land and water to assess what action is necessary to reduce pollution or the risk of pollution;
- not using ozone depleting substances and minimizing the release of greenhouse gases, volatile organic compounds, vehicle emissions and other substances damaging to health and the environment;
- encouraging manufacturers, suppliers and contractors through tighter specification to develop environmentally preferable goods and services at competitive prices;
- working with contractors to improve environmental performance where this is relevant to the contract and to the achievement of value for money;
- meeting all relevant current and foreseen statutory regulations and official codes of practice and specifying contractors do the same when working for County Heating or on County Heating premises;
- developing and maintaining, where significant hazards exist, emergency procedures for effectively dealing with them and limiting the risk to health and the environment;
- ensuring, where practicable, that buildings occupied by County Heating are designed, constructed and operated to improve their environmental performance
- applying the standards in the Government's "Green Claims Code" when buying goods and services and when making statements about its own products and services which reach the public;
- educating, training and motivating employees about environmental policies and best practice and co-operating with others in the public and private sectors to develop and promote environmentally sound practices;

## **Good Practice Guide**

### **Buying & Storage**

Order the correct amount of materials.

Do not accept damaged deliveries (that could be wasted).

Make sure storage areas are appropriate for the materials and are safe and secure.

Handle materials carefully to avoid damage and pollution.

### **Managing Waste**

Improve the way you work to take account of the following;

**Reduce** – the amount needed (do not over order)

**Reuse** – materials on site where appropriate

**Recycle** – materials on and off site

**Disposal** – the last resort and most expensive option

### **Managing Water**

Reduce the amount of water used by ensuring taps do not leak or are left running unnecessary.

Report/repair water leaks as a priority.

Re-use water where practicable and safe to do so.

Do not pollute waste water and sewer systems.

Have absorbent materials ready (if appropriate) to deal with spillages.

**Managing Electricity**

Turn off (if safe to do so) electrical equipment not in use.

Turn off unnecessary lights.

Purchase equipment which has the lowest power consumption to operation efficiency ration.

**Consideration to Neighbours**

We all have a responsibility to minimise nuisance to our neighbours by reducing noise, vibration, dust, emissions and odours.

If you are responsible for and know that there will be any of the above, inform your neighbours in advance.

**Legal Compliance**

Noise in residential areas should not exceed permitted levels. The local Authority can stop work if they decide that you are causing nuisance.