

Our environmental approach

Over 100,000 people live in Orbit's 45,000 properties. Our aim is to ensure the homes we provide and the places we create are high quality, safe and sustainable, in alignment with our 2025 corporate strategy.

Orbit recognise and understands the importance of protecting the environment and the urgency with which businesses must act in response to the current climate and ecological emergency. We acknowledge that we have an impact on the environment both directly, through our business operations, and indirectly, through our supply chain and customers. This policy seeks to address this collective impact, it applies to all our employees, business operations and those working with us or on our behalf.

Orbit has developed an Environmental Management System (EMS) to identify and reduce our environmental impacts and to become a more sustainable organisation. Our Orbit Earth environmental programme has been developed to drive sustainable change across three main themes:



Climate action to become net zero carbon

We aim to reduce our direct emissions significantly, offsetting residual emissions where difficult to eliminate entirely. We will reduce our indirect emissions through an ambitious investment programme in our existing dwellings, an enhancement of our new build standards and significant engagement with our customers and our supply chain.



Enhancement of outdoor spaces to improve the quality of natural resources including biodiversity, land, water and air

We aim to improve our outdoor spaces to support the health and wellbeing of our customers and surrounding communities. These improvements will seek to protect and enhance the natural environment and increase their resilience to a changing climate.



Sustainable consumption to manage resources, materials and products responsibly

We aim to transition to a circular economy where resources are sourced, produced, used, and disposed of sustainably. We will adopt a life cycle approach where efficiency is optimised and waste avoided.



Our approach

Responsible stewardship to control risk, manage performance and ensure resilience

We will operate an EMS (which aligns to the principles of ISO14001) to guarantee compliance with legislation, approved codes of practice and reporting commitments. By regularly reviewing non-compliances and our aspects and impacts and setting environmental targets we commit to delivering continual improvement whilst continuing to grow.

Strong partnerships to develop a sustainable supply chain

We will embed sustainable design and decision-making into our supply chain. By analysing our expenditure and indirect environmental impacts, we will target key suppliers to engage with to reduce environmental impacts and transition to net zero carbon. We will also work to develop the innovations, capacity building and green skills required to deliver our Orbit Earth programme.

Shape culture to drive environmental awareness and have a positive impact on society

We will provide training and education to our employees on environmental impacts and their role in helping to embed change. By listening to and seeking others' views we can support our supply chain and customers to better understand environmental issues, provide suitable resources and encourage them to take positive actions.

Responsibilities

All Orbit employees and subcontractors have a responsibility to be aware and adhere to this policy and the environmental procedures that sit beneath it.

Orbit's Head of Environmental Sustainability manages the implementation of our environmental policy, with strategic oversight provided by the Orbit Earth Steering Group. Senior leadership review performance regularly and ensure suitable resources are provided to support compliance with the EMS. Our environmental policy is updated annually.

Signed:

Afzal Ismail
Group Director of Corporate Services

Dated: July 2021



building
communities