



## Environmental Policy

Gadd homes is regional contracting and development company who seeks to demonstrate environmental responsibility and leadership, and is committed to the principles of environmental sustainability.

Gadd Homes is committed to:-

- Continuous improvement in environmental performance, maximising environmental benefits and taking all necessary steps to prevent pollution.
- The setting and monitoring of objectives and targets that reduce negative impacts on the environment and augment positive impacts.
- Using energy and natural resources more efficiently and encouraging the use and development of alternative fuels and recycled products.
- Comply with all relevant legislation, including environmental and health safety, which represents the minimum standards.
- Providing training and information to all employees to give them a better understanding of health, safety and environmental issues and our commitment, policies and programmes are designed to protect the environment.
- Effectively communicating this policy to all our employees and other stakeholders.

Signed

Paul Hughes  
Group Managing Director



## Environmental Management

Gadd Homes operates an Environmental Policy that is issued to all members of staff upon commencement of their employment with the company. Through the implementation of our policy we have developed numerous environmental management processes and practices, some of which are summarised below;

We recognise our legal obligation in relation to environmental; management and appraise every project for risks and development issues to address the following issues:

- Prevention of surface water pollution.
- Safe disposal of excess surface water to prevent water course pollution.
- Prevention of ground water pollution.
- Review all site activities in relation to potential ground, water and air pollution.
- Control of dust, both within and beyond the boundaries of the site.
- Waste management – facilities or waste segregation and recycling either on site where space permits or through segregation at a waste transfer station.
- Waste disposal and litter collection from site facilities – offices, canteens, toilets etc.
- Safe disposal of effluent from temporary site facilities.

Our Site Manager and Contract Managers attend training events and seminars to ensure that our environmental protection measures minimise the risk to the local environments in which we work. They also have access to the Thomson GEE Environmental Compliance Manual – Practical Guidance for Managers. This provides legislative information as well as practical guidance on measures that can be implemented to reduce or environmental impact.



## Environmental Sustainability

We have established a culture of waste reduction through effective management on all projects. Examples of this culture in operation include:

- Careful material planning to enable 'Just In Time Delivery' avoiding the risk of wasted through material becoming damaged whilst in storage and reducing transportation through double handling.
- Implementation of material requisitioning and careful management of bulk orders using material schedules, therefore avoiding over ordering.
- Establishment of secure temporary compounds, watertight containers, racks and dedicated storage bays or materials, where appropriate to the site areas, therefore avoiding material damage.
- Establishment of timer cutting schedules, reducing timber wastage.
- Adoption of pre-mixed mortars on carefully scheduled timescales to reduce primary material transport and wastage onsite.
- Establishment of viable packages of work for sub-contractors and our directly employed labour force reducing transportation wastage.

We take a proactive role in scheme development to improve project sustainability, and reduce our overall environmental impact. Examples of this approach include:

- Recommending design changes through project appraisals, such as exercises to minimise spoil cart away through site level reviews, and establishing efficiencies in the design of drainage, services installations and foundations. These exercises reduce the environmental cost of transportation and more efficiently utilise materials.
- We use re-cycled crushed concrete in lieu of primary quarried aggregates, where these are suitable.
- Timber is only purchased from suppliers who can produce guarantees that it has been sourced from sustainable and renewable sources.
- On larger projects, where temporary storage space is available, waste is sorted into various types to aid material categorisation and sorting for recycling.
- Through our established material supply chain we ensure that materials are sourced from local outlets. This serves to reduce transportation costs both financially and environmentally and also streamline delivery.
- Environmental sustainability advice is regularly incorporated into building information packs. This provides useful information on issues such as effective use of heating and hot water systems, effective use of lighting including the availability of low energy bulbs and the efficient use of natural ventilation.
- Install sustainable building technologies such as solar radiant panels for heating, sun pipes, heat pumps and heat recovery units. All of these technologies are researched and implemented through our supply chain.



We implement numerous recycling and energy saving initiatives though out the company to reduce our overall operational impact on the enviromenat, these include:

- Paper and cardboard recycling facilities have been installed within our offices. 90% of our paper and cardboard waste is now sent for recycling.
- Electronic communications and document storage are widely promoted to reduce paper consumption.
- A strict policy is in use to ensure that all lights are turned off at the end of the day and when rooms are not in use.
- Our offices are naturally ventilated and air-cooled. Air conditioning and cooling is restricted to our computer room only.
- Localised thermostatic controls have been installed throughout the office to ensure that efficient use of the energy consumed for heating.
- A strict policy is in force to ensure that all that all computers and monitors are switched off when not in use ands at the end of the day.
- All printers consumables such as cartridges and toners are recycled either directly by returning them to the manufacturer or indirectly though charitable donation schemes.
- Redundant equipment such as printers, computers and monitors are either given to local charities for re-use or sent to a specialist recycling company though our suppliers.

We have a commitment to the employment of locally based employees, sub-contractors, trades people and suppliers on our projects, the vast majority of whom are based in Devon or Somerset. This engenders:

- Reduced environmental transportation costs.
- Increased project awareness throughout the local community leading to a greater feeling of social inclusion.
- Streamlined supply arrangements.
- Reduced transportation during aftercare, minimising geographic distance between our supply chain and the completed projects.