

# Climate Change policy

## Introduction

Our purpose is: *‘Making sustainable living a reality, building strong communities’*. (‘The Group’) is determined to be the leading sustainable national housebuilder. We believe that fundamental to building quality homes is building a positive environmental, social and economic legacy for future generations. Sustainability presents opportunities for business prosperity and growth, encourages innovation and resilience, and improves our products and customer experience.

Climate change is a global phenomenon, already causing more extreme weather events such as storms, heatwaves, increased rainfall, droughts, greater risk of flooding, water shortages and overheating in homes. Therefore, we know that there are chronic and acute physical, transitional, reputational and litigation risks that will impact our supply chain, operations and customers. For example, climate change will affect where we buy land, access to raw materials in our supply chain and the design of the homes and places we create.

As well as risks, we know that climate change also presents opportunities to build a better, more resilient and efficient living environment.

This policy sets out how we will manage the way our business mitigates and adapts to climate change. It covers how we operate, the role of our supply chain and how we will continue to improve the sustainability of the homes we build.

It provides a framework for delivering on our commitment to reducing carbon emissions in line with our strategic targets.

## Objectives

The aims of our policy are to:

- Ensure our business activities are aligned with our 1.5°C science-based carbon reduction targets.
- Support the delivery of the UK Government’s climate change commitment. Identify and manage risks and opportunities arising from predicted changes in climate on our operations, our supply chain and our customers.
- Set clear goals, targets (short-, medium and long-term), KPIs and accountabilities and report annually on our performance.
- Disclose our performance transparently in line with global best practice standards (e.g. the Greenhouse Gas Protocol).
- Work with suppliers, sector bodies, local and national government to identify practical routes for mitigation and adaptation.

## Policy

The Group is committed to:

### **Mitigating climate change through minimising our operational impact.**

- Improve energy efficiency, reduce carbon emissions from our sites, offices and manufacturing through selection of efficient plant, equipment, buildings and efficient working practices reducing diesel consumption, purchasing renewable energy or a combination of the these.

- Managing the use of water, materials and the generation of waste.
- Reducing the impact of business mileage and emissions through the adoption of electric and hybrid vehicles and fleet management.

#### **Mitigating climate change through development and home design.**

- Continue to deliver energy efficient homes via a fabric first approach.
- Adherence to our placemaking principles to ensure our developments are connected, have access to community facilities, sustainable transport options, sustainable drainage solutions.
- Create a legacy of resilient landscapes and communities delivering net gains for biodiversity and contributing to the conservation of local biodiversity priorities. Engage our customers and provide features to support them to live more sustainably.

#### **Mitigating climate change by working with our suppliers and subcontractors.**

- Specifying low carbon materials in accordance with our sustainable procurement policy.
- Engage our supply chain to reduce embodied carbon of our construction materials and services.

#### **Adaptation through innovation, research and partnership.**

- Invest in trials of innovative methods of construction.
- Research emerging smart technologies and techniques.
- Implement measures on developments to adapt to changes in thermal comfort, flood risk and water shortage.
- Engage with key stakeholders within government, regulators,

businesses, trade bodies and academia to collaborate and to deliver an effective net zero carbon transition across the housebuilding sector.

This policy is supported by our sustainability, sustainable procurement, and environment policies, and the targets and actions defined in our sustainability framework.

**This policy is reviewed annually and is approved by the Group Board. It is communicated to key stakeholders and is available on our website.**

**David Thomas**  
**Chief Executive**  
**22 October 2024**