



Portus
Supported Housing

Environmental and Sustainability Policy Version 1.0

Safe spaces for independent living

Review

Date of this review	Date of last review	Author(s)	Owner	Next review date
31/10/2025	31/10/2025	Jason Cox	Jason Cox	31/10/2027

Details of amendments

Version	Date	Update/ amendment detail	Resulting from

Approved by

Executive Team	[00/00/00]
Board	13/11/25



1. Introduction

Portus Supported Housing (PSH) understands that the delivery of its services can have both direct and indirect impacts on the environment and is committed to reducing any harmful effects caused by its activities. PSH also seeks to promote sustainability in a broad context, contributing to the improving quality of life within the homes, neighbourhoods and communities it works in.

2. Purpose / Aim

This policy sets out PSH's commitment to reducing any harmful effects on the environment arising from its activities, and to promoting sustainability.

3. Scope

PSH's main objectives are to:

- meet all relevant environmental and energy efficiency standards set by the government and regulators
- work with key stakeholders, such as superior landlords, care providers, and contractors, to achieve PSH's overall objectives in this area
- consider environmental and sustainability issues when developing and maintaining PSH homes
- support customers in adopting environmentally sound practices that encourage sustainable tenancies
- provide a high-quality living environment in all new developments
- reduce the environmental impact of PSH's daily operations
- reduce waste produced, encourage recycling, and reuse materials where possible
- reduce waste sent to landfill

4. Legal and Regulatory Framework

PSH aims to comply with the following legislation:

- *Waste Management (England & Wales) Regulations 2006*
- *Waste Packaging Regulations (as amended) 2013*
- *Environmental Protection Act 1990*
- *Control of Waste Regulations 201*
- *Climate Change Act 2008*
- *Environment Act 1995*
- *Building Regulations 2010*
- *Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive*
- *Energy Act 2010*
- *Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015*
- *Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981*



5. Related Policies and Documents

Repairs and Maintenance Policy

Planned and Cyclical Maintenance Policy

6. Policy Statement / Principles

Development of new properties

PSH will work with developers and funders to develop homes in areas where customers will want to live – both now and in the future. In the case of redevelopment and refurbishment, PSH will work with existing care providers and housing commissioners to help develop standards that ensure properties are sustainable for long-term use from the outset.

PSH will take account of legislative and political changes to ensure that its properties are sustainable over the long term. PSH works closely with local authorities, care providers, and developers to ensure development plans reflect and address welfare reform changes and local housing needs.

The location of PSH properties is carefully considered in relation to access to local amenities and services, to ensure that our homes encourage sustainable tenancies. Schemes are developed to make the most efficient and effective use of land in ways that are appropriate to the local community. PSH also considers information provided by local authorities on local infrastructure, as well as other relevant data such as flood warning information. PSH aims to develop high-quality, desirable housing that reflects the local area while allowing for flexibility and growth over time.

All development consultants and contractors engaged by PSH are required to provide copies of their environmental and sustainability statements and action plans.

Existing properties

PSH aims to maintain the condition of its properties to a high standard. Improving energy efficiency is a key consideration, and PSH will be proactive to addressing issues of energy efficiency and fuel poverty.

PSH will develop an asset management strategy that reflects the principles of this policy and aims to comply with all relevant industry standards, such as the *Decent Homes Standard*.

Where possible, PSH will look to use specialist funding to provide residents with access to free insulation for lofts and treatable cavity walls. Where existing stock cannot reasonably meet energy efficiency targets, this will form the basis for considering the disposal of the property or for negotiations with superior landlords to support the required upgrades.

All contractors employed by PSH are expected to comply with all relevant legislation referred to in section 4 including waste management requirements.

PSH aims to maximise the life cycle of components used in its properties by installing high-quality products where financially feasible. Repairing rather than replacing major items,



such as kitchens and bathrooms, where viable, also helps to minimise unnecessary expenditure, and environmental impact.

Employment and work practices

PSH aims to reduce the amount of travelling undertaken by colleagues. PSH operates hybrid working practices that encourage mobile and remote working and reduce commuting into the office.

PSH also aims to reduce the energy consumption of office equipment by purchasing energy-efficient equipment and through good housekeeping, including recycling.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

All PSH staff are responsible to work towards the aims of this policy.

8. Monitoring, Review and Compliance

This Policy will be reviewed every 2 years.

9. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

PSH is committed to mainstreaming equality and diversity throughout all its activities as well as meeting the general and specific duties imposed on it through the legislation. Please refer to PSH's [Equality and Diversity Policy](#) to read the policy details in full.

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