

## **SPPA Environmental Policy Statement**

The Scottish Public Pensions Agency is committed to improving its environmental performance as part of our wider commitment to sustainable development.

We aim to apply the principles of sustainable development by minimising our environmental impact and use of natural resources, whilst strengthening the social and economic benefits we provide to staff and the local community.

Our organisation will:

Meet or exceed relevant UK environmental legislation

Set quantifiable objectives to implement this policy

Commit staff and resources to ensure that objectives are met

Ensure that staff are trained to understand the policy and have the skills to implement it

Aim to minimise the use of all materials, supplies and energy, and conserve water. Wherever possible we will use renewable or recyclable materials

Recognise that waste has an environmental impact and cost and we will adopt the waste hierarchy of prevent, reduce, recover, re-use and recycle

Seek to reduce all harmful emissions to the atmosphere by reducing consumptions and reviewing alternatives

Seek to minimise the impact that transport has on the environment, encouraging the use of more sustainable means of travel, lift sharing and video conferencing facilities

Include environmental considerations in investment decisions

Expect similar environmental standards to our own from all third parties involved with our business

Aim to conserve biodiversity and where possible make a positive contribution to enhance the quality of our lives and opportunities for the future

Signed..... Date.....  
Chief Executive Scottish Public Pensions Agency

## **SPPA Environmental Performance Policy**

### **Introduction and Purpose**

This document is issued by the Scottish Public Pensions Agency and constitutes its Environmental Performance Policy.

The Agency recognises its legal and ethical responsibilities to protect and enhance the environment and that by working towards sustainable practices in the use (and disposal) of materials; energy; landscape management it can contribute to sustainable development both locally and regionally.

The Agency exists and operates within physical, occupational, social and cultural surroundings. The performance of its activities will have impacts on those surroundings. It is the purpose of this Policy to put in place mechanisms to identify these impacts, assess ways of controlling or reducing these impacts(if necessary) and to monitor the implementation of controls and achievement of the Agency's environmental objectives.

### **Definitions**

Environmental Performance - the performance of the Agency in reducing its impact, burden and effects upon the environment, as measured against a baseline of current performance.

Environment - the set of circumstances or conditions, especially physical conditions, in which a person lives, works, develops etc. (Oxford English Dictionary)

Sustainable Development - development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the future of future generations to meet their own needs. (WCED 1987)

Sustainable Practice - practice which is not environmentally degrading.

### **Aims and Objectives**

#### **Aims**

To incorporate best practice in the management of environmental impacts.

To promote the awareness of the need to achieve sustainable practice in the performance of activities including new developments regarding the use (and disposal) of materials; energy; landscape management and transport.

To establish mechanisms to identify, control and monitor the impact of the Agency's activities.

To ensure, as a minimum, compliance with legal requirements imposed upon the Agency with regard to environmental protection and, where possible, to do better than the legal minimum.

### **Objectives**

To develop an awareness throughout the Agency of the roles and responsibilities of individuals, sections and senior managers in the Agency to improve environmental performance.

To develop guidance and standards to enable achievement of improved environmental performance.

To develop and introduce mechanisms for monitoring the implementation of this policy.

### **Key Policy Areas**

#### Waste Production and Disposal

The Agency will consider ways to improve the management of waste. Priority will be given to improving the purchasing of materials to reduce waste generation; waste minimisation through re-use; waste recycling; the best environmental option for disposal of waste.

#### Energy and Water Usage

The Agency will continually improve its energy conservation; reduce energy per capita use year on year; and reduce water usage and wastage.

#### Gaseous Emissions

The Agency will seek ways to ensure legal water quality objectives are met; consider ways of monitoring gaseous emissions; continue to comply with air pollution controls with respect to the boiler house.

#### Gardens

The Agency recognises its responsibility to maintain biodiversity and the need for responsible management of its grounds.

#### Built Environment

The Agency will seek to co-ordinate, with its development and refurbishing programmes, an architectural cohesion, which is in keeping with the local surroundings. It will also set internal environment standards to ensure that Agency staff benefit from accommodation which is healthy, pleasant and enjoyable.

## **Responsibility for Implementation**

### The Chief Executive

Has ultimate responsibility on behalf of the Senior Management Team to ensure the implementation of this Policy, and that the requirements of this Policy are adhered to.

Shall ensure that responsibility for the adherence to implementation of this policy is properly assigned and accepted.

### The Senior Management Team

Shall ensure that there is an effective policy for Environmental Performance for all the Agency's activities

Shall give support to the Policy and any person with responsibility for its implementation.

Shall ensure that necessary resources are made available to enable monitoring of the implementation of this policy.

Shall receive and approve an annual report on environmental performance.

Shall have the responsibility for managing the incorporation and implementation of this Policy within their directorates.

Shall, through delegation to appropriate personnel, ensure that actions identified to reduce the Agency's environmental impact, are performed.

### All Staff

Shall actively support this policy to ensure that the environmental performance of the Agency improves and that impacts are reduced.

## **Organisation**

### Environmental Performance Working Group

#### Terms of Reference

To advise the Agency, through its Committee structure, on matters relating to Environmental Performance and Sustainable Development.

To develop and keep under review an Environmental Performance Strategy and monitoring arrangements.

Signed..... Date.....  
Chief Executive Scottish Public Pensions Agency