

# RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY POLICY

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Prepared by:	Joe Keating
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Policy approved by:	John Bowker
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EIA Required?	<input type="checkbox"/>
EIA Completed?	<input type="checkbox"/>
Revision number:	2
Lead officer:	Joe Keating

## **1 POLICY STATEMENT**

1.1 The aim of the policy is to ensure that Stockport Homes will endeavour to implement low carbon technology where ever viable and to ensure renewable energy considerations will form part of all feasibility studies conducted.

1.2 Stockport Homes are committed to ensuring environmental compliance and continually improving on its environmental performance and minimisation of pollution. This policy will further demonstrate and ensure Stockport Homes will be able to meet or exceed local and national government targets for renewable energy, carbon neutrality and future planning towards the mitigation of the effects of climate change.

## **2 INTRODUCTION**

2.1 Stockport Homes prides itself on an established culture of environmental protection and sustainable development across the organisations services. The organisation aims to improve the environment as well as create efficiencies under the company's Mission Statement and the use of renewable energy technology very much aligns with these values.

2.2 Stockport Homes promotes the use of renewable energy technology which offers feasible solutions to the generation, distribution and future security of energy aimed to reduce energy costs for customers and/or reduce carbon dioxide emissions.

2.3 Stockport Homes are committed to fulfil the company's associated strategies and objectives with regards to the use of renewable technology; and as such will ensure all reasonable investigations have been assessed for the investment and implementation in those technologies which will provide energy from renewable and sustainable sources.

2.4 It is Stockport Homes' policy that all feasible solutions with regards to the use of renewable technology will be implemented to maximise the benefits for the customers of Stockport Homes and the environment; to aid in the reduction of fuel poverty and combat the associated impacts of climate change.

## **3 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT**

3.1 The Renewable Energy Technology Policy is important for the delivery of continued investment in the housing stock with regards to greener energy generation and addressing fuel poverty. The policy will provide clear, concise and equality communication to the customers of Stockport Homes.

3.2 The Renewable Energy Technology Policy supports other existing policies and strategies such as:

- 30 Year Asset Management Strategy
- The Climate Change Strategy
- Environmental Commitment Statement.

## **4 SCOPE OF THE POLICY**

4.1 The Renewable Energy Technology Policy will affect the whole of Stockport Homes Group activities, services and assets.

## **5 KEY PRINCIPLES**

5.1 Key principles of this policy are:

- All reasonable options of renewable technology should be assessed at every stage as to ascertain if they are a feasible solution on any capital investment or programmed improvement scheme concerning the generation of energy as a service provision. This will be followed up with annual audits carried out by the Environmental and Energy Team.
- Where possible the use of renewable technology will be implemented to complement other low carbon related investment activities for example insulation and over-cladding.
- Stockport Homes will investigate and aim to maximise external funding and/or incentive opportunities that will complement or enhance the scheme.
- Any income generated from the implementation of renewable energy technology can be used by Stockport Homes on energy related initiatives and future investment programmes that offer energy efficiency, sustainability and environmental protection benefits including new build, existing stock and energy procurement.
- Solar Photovoltaic (PV) systems should only be fitted to Stockport Homes' customer roofs, client base and/or operational buildings when the roof is facing in a direction as to satisfy the feasible implementation and be free from excessive shading or obstruction.
- All reasonable external rent a roof models offers will be assessed for their viability and overall benefits.
- Stockport Homes will carry out appropriate investigation at all stages to ascertain if renewable energy is a feasible solution for the production of energy on existing stock, new build developments and/or operational buildings. This will be followed up with annual audits carried out by the Environmental and Energy Team.
- Any investment in renewable energy technology will be

complemented by energy efficiency advice being given to the occupants or users of that building.

- All communication with customers will be done in a clear and concise manner and respectful of any known diversity requirement.

## **6 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) was carried out when the policy was written. Due to the periodic review resulting in only minor changes, a revised EIA is not required.

## **7 OWNERSHIP, MONITORING & REVIEW**

7.1 The Policy is owned by the Operations Directorate and will be monitored by the Operations Management Team.

7.2 The Policy will be reviewed in line with the Operations Management Policy and Procedure Review Schedule as well as any significant associated legislation change or significant change to the structure of the organisation.