

## *Our Vision*



## *Your Home*





## Vision Statement

**“Environmental issues are becoming increasingly important and there is an associated increase in public awareness. There is generally less awareness of the contribution that good building design can make to reducing pollution and improving the environment for us all”.**

WRHA’s aim is to achieve quality developments of Sustainable Homes Code Level 4 and beyond using a simple repeatable design which is both cost effective and affordable and provides an attractive and economical home environment which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

Developments should improve and enhance the quality of the existing environment (buildings, their surroundings and the standard of maintenance) making it a more desirable place to live.

# One Planet Living



**One Planet Living is a global initiative based on 10 principles of sustainability developed by Bio Regional and WWF.**

The 10 guiding principles are:

## **1 Zero Carbon**

**Why** Our climate is changing because of the human-induced build up of Co2 in the atmosphere.

### **What we will do**

Build new homes to meet government targets on emissions.

Use high quality boilers or renewable forms of energy in refurbishment/repair works to reduce carbon emissions.

## **2 Zero Waste**

**Why** Waste from discarded products and packaging creates disposal problems and squanders valuable resources.

### **What we will do**

Require contractors to have waste reduction policies and targets.

Incorporate waste re-cycling facilities in new homes.

Encourage existing residents to re-cycle their waste.

### 3 **Sustainable Principles**

**Why** Travel by car and airplane is contributing to climate change, air and noise pollution, and congestion.

#### **What we will do**

Aim to reduce the reliance on travel by car by providing new homes in locations where public transport and other amenities are available, bearing in mind that the Associations aim is to build homes in villages for local people.

Provide lockable cycle storage in all new developments.

### 4 **Local and Sustainable Materials**

**Why** Destructive resources exploitation (e.g. in construction and manufacturing) increases environmental damage and reduces benefits to local community.

#### **What we will do**

Employ local companies and workmen wherever possible.

Use locally sourced materials wherever possible.

Encourage residents to use local and sustainable materials.

### 5 **Local and Sustainable Food**

**Why** Industrial agriculture produces food of uncertain quality, harms local ecosystems, and may have high transport impacts.

#### **What we will do**

Provide gardens for all properties

Encourage residents to 'grow their own' or buy local produce.



## 6 **Sustainable Water**

**Why** Local supplies of freshwater are often insufficient to meet human needs, due to pollution, disruption of hydrological cycles, and depletion.

### **What we will do**

Build all new homes to a standard that will reduce water usage to a minimum.

Provide rain water collection facilities in all new homes.

Install water saving features in existing properties through the maintenance and refurbishment programmes.

Provide rain water collection facilities in existing properties at void.

## 7 **Natural Habitats and Wildlife**

**Why** Loss of biodiversity due to development in natural areas and over-exploitations of natural resources.

### **What we will do**

Undertake ecological site assessments as part of the design process and incorporate any findings/requirements into the final design.

Undertake protected species surveys on sites where these are indicated prior to design and undertake any remediation necessary.

Undertake tree surveys on sites where these are indicated prior to design and incorporate and requirements into the final design.

Build on brown field sites wherever possible bearing in mind that we build in rural areas.

Install bird boxes on new developments.

## 8 **Culture and Heritage**

**Why** Local cultural heritage is being lost throughout the world due to globalisation, resulting in loss of local identity and knowledge.

### **What we will do**

Continue to build homes in villages for local people which will reinforce resident's local identity and ensure that local knowledge is not lost.

## 9 **Equity and Fair Trade**

**Why** Some in the industrialised world live in relative poverty, while many in the developing world cannot meet their basic needs from what they produce or sell.

### **What we will do**

Continue to build homes in villages for local people where local people have been priced out of the market thus ensuring the basic human right of a decent home for all.

## 10 **Health and Happiness**

**Why** Rising wealth and greater health and happiness increasingly diverge, raising questions about the true basis of well-being and contentment.

### **What we will do**

Continue to build high quality homes which meet the needs of the individual resident, in areas where they want to live, thus ensuring a healthy living environment which should add to the feeling of well-being and contentment.

Support residents to enable them to maintain their tenancies.

Maintain properties to a high standard.

Improve properties as funds allow.



**“Scientific evidence shows that climate change resulting from carbon dioxide emissions associated with energy use is both real and already underway. At the same time we need to build much more housing to accommodate an increasing population, and changing lifestyles. If all necessary housing were to be built by 2050, experts predict that up to one-third of the total of the housing stock is still yet to be built”.**

**“Building sustainable homes requires us to minimise all sorts of environmental impacts in addition to carbon dioxide emissions, such as water use, waste generated and material for building”.**

**The Code for Sustainable Homes provides a comprehensive tool for us to measure how we match our vision.**

This code guides us in how we build your new home and the principles we use and follow while doing so. Things like ‘Secure by Design’ and ‘Lifetime Homes’ along with the ‘Code for Sustainable Homes’ are why we use the light fittings we do, or in our newer homes there is no bath fitted, and why we cannot allow these to be changed by a tenant. They are there for a reason and because of our commitment to this level of sustainable development and protection of the environment we won’t allow them to be altered or changed in any way. If we allowed the light fittings to be changed or a bath fitted, for example, then that house no longer meets the requirements for a [Code Level 4](#) home. Your new home is a complete package that put all together achieves [Code Level 4](#), which we have built for your benefit and enjoyment.

We are sure that it will allow you to live a healthy, happy and enjoyable life in an environmentally friendly way, in a home with low running costs and easy for you to manage and fits into your household budgets well. We’re confident it does.

#### **USEFUL WEBSITES:-**

<http://www.nea.org.uk/>

<http://www.carbontrust.co.uk/>

<http://www.greenbuildingstore.co.uk/>

<http://www.greenspec.co.uk/>

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/>

<http://www.waterwise.org.uk/>

<http://www.sustainablehomes.co.uk/>

<http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/>



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**Registered Office:**  
**Wiltshire Rural Housing Association Ltd**  
**20 High Street**  
**Bromham**  
**Nr. Chippenham**  
**Wiltshire**  
**SN15 2EX**

**Tel: 01380 850916**  
**Fax: 01380 850820**  
**Email: [info@wrha.co.uk](mailto:info@wrha.co.uk)**