

## **Acorn Enviromental Management Group Ltd**

### **Sustainable Development Policy**

## Scope:

It shall be the policy of this organisation that future growth and business shall be managed in such a way to ensure the sustainability (in so far as reasonably practicable) of:

- Local and global resources
- The local community
- The global community

The organisation shall achieve its sustainability vision by:

- Controlling its environmental impact
- Making a positive environmental impact wherever it is possible to do so
- Measuring and reducing its consumption of non sustainable resources
- Measuring and monitoring its impact upon the local community and ensuring that the local community benefits from its proximity to the organisation
- More systematic management of the impacts of their products and processes, of their transport and distribution operations, and of their supply chains
- Building stakeholder confidence by being more open and transparent through reporting against meaningful key performance indicators and targets
- Actively keeping customers informed through product declarations and newsletters
- By communicating sustainability aims to the workforce and local community

## What is sustainable development?

The past 20 years have seen a growing realisation that the current model of development is not sustainable; society is living beyond its means.

From the loss of biodiversity with the felling of rainforests or over fishing to the negative effect of current consumption patterns are having a significant impact upon the environment and the climate. Modern ways of life are placing an increasing burden on the planet.

A widely-used and accepted international definition of sustainable development is:

*‘Development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’*

Unless effort is made to make real progress toward reconciling these contradictions the world shall face a future that is less certain and less secure. It is our firmly held belief

that decisive moves must be made towards more sustainable development. Not just because it is 'the right thing to do', but also because it is in the organisations long-term best interests.

### **Sustainable consumption and production:**

Sustainable consumption and production (SCP) requires an organisation to achieve more with less.

### **Sustainable communities:**

The aim of this organisation is to contribute to the creation of a sustainable communities local to its operations

This organisation believes that a sustainable community is:

- Active, inclusive and safe
- Fair, tolerant and cohesive with a strong local culture and shared community activities
- Well run - with effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership
- Environmentally sensitive – providing places for people to live that are considerate of the environment
- Well designed and built – featuring a quality built and natural environment
- Well connected – with good transport services and communication linking people to jobs, schools, health and other services
- Thriving - with a flourishing and diverse local economy
- Well served – with public, private, community and voluntary services that are appropriate to people's needs and accessible to all
- Fair for everyone – Including those in other communities, now and in the future

### **Communication:**

This organisation shall ensure that all stakeholders are aware of the need for sustainable development and shall in particular ensure:

- Sustainable design - enabling consumers make more sustainable choices by designing sustainability into proposed landscape schemes
- Customers are made aware of product life cycle issues
- Customers are given information about environmental impact issues
- Innovation to meet sustainability challenges