

## STRATEGIC STATEMENT – GREEN STRATEGY 2016-21

This statement summarises the Group’s framework for environmental sustainability and sets out strategic priorities for the period 2016-21.

### A2Dominion’s vision

The Group’s vision is to improve people’s lives through quality homes and services. The Green Strategy Statement contributes to delivery of this vision with a framework to ensure environmental sustainability of the organisation and its housing provision. Its implementation improves value for money and quality of life for residents as well as delivering benefits for the Group itself.

### What environmental sustainability means to us

Sustainability is defined as “activity that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.” This statement focuses specifically on environmental sustainability and performance.

### Scope

The statement impacts Group-wide, encompassing:

- Business operations
- New build properties
- Existing stock
- Information to our residents
- Company culture

### Green Strategic Objectives

The Group has four strategic objectives and the key activities associated with each of these are summarised below.

- a. **Green Leadership** - to increase staff and resident awareness of environmental sustainability and encourage the adoption of sustainable practices.

<b>Key activities and targets</b>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Deploy lean principles to minimise waste in A2D systems and processes, through delivery of the IT Strategy and A2D work programme from April 2016.</li> <li>b. Use HOME demos, aftercare and communications to promote sustainable practices to residents.</li> <li>c. Promote sustainable business practices for example through Business Case and Procurement criteria and, in our offices, Facilities Management.</li> <li>d. Review performance measures by March 2017 as part of our Environmental Management System, where practicable to do so.</li> </ol>

- b. **Minimisation of Energy Usage and CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions and Promotion of Affordable Warmth** – to reduce carbon emissions caused by the Group’s operations and increase the energy efficiency of our property assets; and help tackle fuel poverty.

<b>Key activities and targets</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Deliver new homes at NW Bicester ecotown to true zero carbon standards, with 30% reduction in the typical build process, and within 400m of bus stops.</li> <li>b. Update the A2D Asset Management Strategy and Plan by April 2017 and continue to develop and deploy Priority Property Lists to identify homes with low thermal performance for remedial action or disposal.</li> <li>c. Keep our Stock Rationalisation programme under review, disposing of outlying properties outside our core area of operation and reducing the need to travel.</li> <li>d. Evaluate long term life time costs in the provision of new homes.</li> <li>e. Consider bidders’ environmental performance as part of our procurement criteria, including for new planned and cyclical works contracts to start on site April 2017.</li> <li>f. Continue to minimise the carbon footprint and associated running costs of commercial plant used to provide heating and hot water for residents. Keep abreast of commercial opportunities to procure and provide energy at lower costs to residents.</li> <li>g. Keep abreast of funding opportunities for property upgrades and other environmental initiatives.</li> <li>h. Improve the environmental performance through office moves at Oxford (2017/18) and Winchester (longer term).</li> <li>i. Reduce server requirements through the PC and citrix replacement in 2016/17 and by shifting applications to online software where feasible.</li> <li>j. Reduce the need to travel through the further roll out of Mobile working.</li> </ul>

- a. **Minimise Water Usage and the Impact of Materials** – to minimise wasteful water consumption by A2D residents and staff; reduce the amount of waste produced and encourage its reuse rather than landfill; and to prioritise the use of sustainably sourced materials.

<b>Key activities and targets</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Promote sustainable design of new properties through the A2D Design Guide.</li> <li>b) Meet design standards for high levels of water minimisation in the provision of NW Bicester eco town, and ensure no construction waste is sent to landfill.</li> <li>c) Consider opportunities to improve performance of existing properties where affordable to do so.</li> <li>d) Work with residents to promote recycling and discourage bulk waste and fly tipping on estates.</li> </ul>

- b. **Mitigate the Negative Impacts of Land and Climate Change** – to provide and encourage new habitats for flora and fauna to achieve biodiversity gains on land owned by A2Dominion. To adapt housing stock and estates to help mitigate the impact of climate change.

### **Key activities and targets**

Promote sustainable landscaping on new estates through the A2D Design Guide.  
Provide 40% green space at NW Bicester ecotown with a net increase in biodiversity over and above previous land use.  
Facilitate and promote local community initiatives to improve and care for the local environment through the resident led Neighbourhood Initiative Fund and Community Investment activities.

### **Priorities**

Delivery of the strategy must be affordable and significant initiatives and new investments will be subject to a business case.

### **Other Supporting Strategies and Initiatives**

A2D's Green objectives are supported through the following strategies and initiatives:

- Land and Development Strategy, Programme and Design Guide
- Asset Management Strategy
- Community Investment Programme
- Procurement Framework
- Office Premises Strategy
- Communications Plan
- A2D Work Programme
- Value for Money Strategy

### **Review of Green Strategy Statement**

The Strategy will be reviewed by March 2020 or earlier if required.

### **Roles & responsibilities**

<b>Approval</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Reports</b>	<b>Frequency</b>
Group Board	Approve the green strategic statement, consider environmental implications in decision making and ensure environmental returns are achieved on A2Dominion assets.	Progress summary. VFM self-assessment. Business cases should highlight green implications where appropriate.	Annual  Annual  As required
Executive Management Team	Oversee development and implementation of green strategic statement and plans to deliver green objectives.	Progress summary.	Annual
CSC and SIGs	Ensure environmental implications are considered as part of any new proposals.	Reports should highlight green implications where appropriate.	As required

### **22.4.16**