

## Environmental Policy and Procedure

### Policy

*Community First recognises that our activities impact upon the environment, both through our own operations and through the projects in which we become involved. We acknowledge a responsibility for and a commitment to protection of the environment.*

*Community First will comply as fully as possible with environmental legislation and will commit to continuously improving our environmental performance. We will make it a priority to encourage the development of environmentally friendly policies and behaviours in our own organisational activities.*

*We will implement sound environmental practice internally, and then seek to encourage the communities with which we work to endorse environmentally friendly practice themselves.*

### Procedure

From an **internal** perspective and within economic constraints, it is the practice of Community First wherever possible to:

- Give preference to reducing our consumption of natural resources.
- Increase awareness of environmental issues amongst our staff.
- Give preference, to products and services which cause least harm to the environment and which are produced in a resource efficient way.
- Seek to minimise waste and pollution, through sound waste management procedures.
- Avoid whenever practical the use of environmentally damaging substances, materials and processes.
- Commit to continuously improving our environmental performance.

The implementation of this policy in Community First will be supported by a 'Green Office Guide'.

From an **external** perspective and within economic constraints it is the practice of Community First wherever possible to:

- Include a review of environmental issues when assessing projects with which we are to be involved.
- Recognise and share environmental best practice when developing new or existing services to avoid duplication of effort.
- Identify partners to work with to support the delivery of new or existing services which encourage environmental sustainability.
- Work to influence the local, regional and national strategic environmental context as appropriate..