

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY

AT A GLANCE 2021 - 2024



Improving our environmental impact

Southern Housing Group is working hard to improve our environmental impact.. We've recently refreshed our approach and strategy in response to the Government's commitment to reach Net Zero by 2050. Everyone has a part to play in this, it is about how we operate as a business so we'll be looking at all aspects of our work. This short summary outlines the key priorities from our full strategy and action plan.

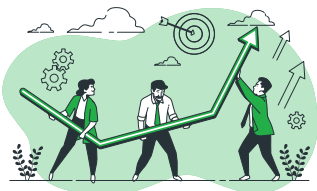
What are we doing now?

We are at the start of this journey. Our first step is to understand our homes and how we can improve their energy performance. This includes looking at their current Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) and Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP).

There is a huge amount to be done before 2050. Over time, we will be developing a schedule of work to improve your homes. You will be kept informed throughout this process. This will include:

- ✓ **Upgrading the fabric of your home** – The windows, the roof, anywhere heat escapes from - so that it's affordable to heat and you need to use less energy for heating and hot water.
- ✓ **Changing heating systems** - From gas boilers to heat pumps for clean heat and energy efficiency.
- ✓ **Switching contracts to renewable energy** – This could include solar energy, wind and water energy and other renewable sources.
- ✓ **Building new homes** – By 2027 all new homes that we build will be net zero carbon, so that we won't have to adapt homes to make them sustainable later. That means building with sustainable materials, making sure buildings are well-insulated but won't overheat. It means energy comes from heat pumps and that is it renewable.. We want to make sure that everyone we work with – contractors and suppliers - are using sustainable practices too, like using and wasting less water when we build.
- ✓ **Getting ready for renewable energy** - First we need to make sure that homes are well-insulated, dry and secure. Then we want to shift away from gas to energy types which can be produced sustainably, like electricity, air source heat pumps and electricity produced from wind energy. We'll also be providing charging points for electric vehicles over the next few years.
- ✓ **Getting ready for sustainable operations** – This means looking at how we work, replacing our fleet of vehicles with ones that run on renewable sources, and making sure that all our suppliers and contractors are doing the same.
- ✓ **Learning how to be sustainable** - Educating ourselves, residents and those in our contract and supply chains about sustainability is part of our strategy. We will help people to understand the technology in our homes and how we can live more sustainably, as well as improving our outdoor spaces to encourage biodiversity and improve health and wellbeing.

Our sustainability journey

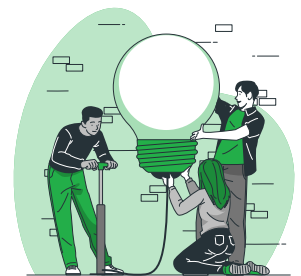


Our Net Zero Carbon commitment

- By 2050 – we will be Net Zero Carbon across all our homes
- By 2030 – we will be Net Zero Carbon in our day-to-day business activities

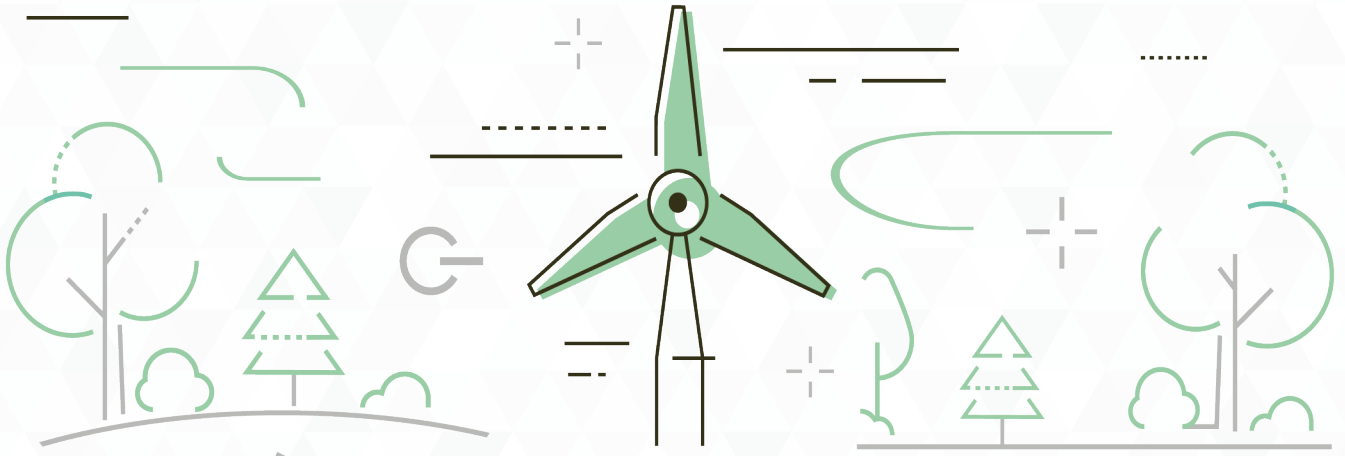
Our pathway to better energy performance in our homes

- By 2035 – All our rented homes will have Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) C or better
- By 2030 – All our 'fuel poor' households will have Energy Performance Certificate (EPC) C or better
- By 2024 - 75% of our rented homes will be EPC C or better.



We will take a resident-centred approach based on actual reductions in energy used in your homes and your energy bills.

Involving our residents



Residents at the heart of all we do

Residents have been involved in the development of our sustainability plans and we will carry on talking to you and listening to what you need and want.

- We will involve residents in our decision-making at every level.
- Our governance structure for sustainability will include residents.
- We will report back to you on our progress.

If you'd like to read our full plan, visit our **website**.



Residents told us:



- 'Ensure all new developments are energy efficient.'
- 'Improve buildings, both of existing stock and design of new build.'
- 'Provide electric vehicle charging points and/or enable all enable all tenure types to access charging points.'
- 'Ensure all new developments have adequate provision of public transport in the master plan.'
- 'Do slightly more than needed, rather than barely enough.'
- 'Help residents to recycle more.'
- 'Encourage more garden initiatives.'
- 'Keep residents well informed and understand energy efficiency.'

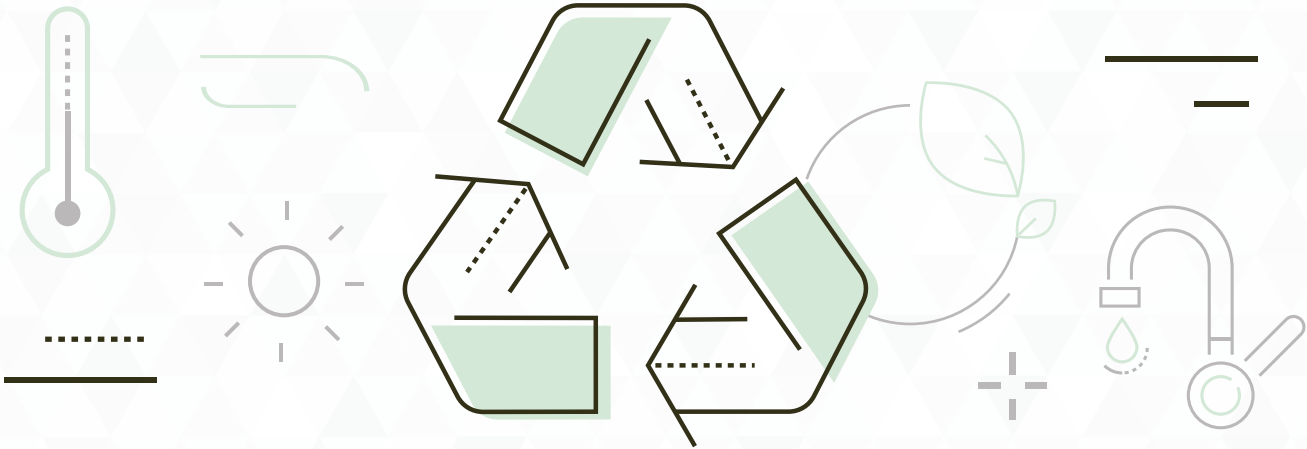
Getting involved

If you'd like to be more involved with our work on sustainability, please get in touch with our Resident Involvement Team.

Visit our website page: **Resident Involvement (shgroup.org.uk)**
You can email us at: **Resident.Involvement2@shgroup.org.uk**



Our plan



	New Build	Existing Homes	Operations
Cutting Carbon	Reduce CO2 emissions from making and running our new homes	Reduce CO2 emissions from maintaining running and improving our existing homes	Reduce CO2 from our workplaces, how we travel, what we purchase
Improving Biodiversity	Create homes and places that work well for people and nature	Manage places for wildlife and improve community access to nature	Champion biodiversity and the benefits of nature in and around our workplace
Enhancing Wellbeing	Design and deliver homes that support physical and mental wellbeing	Support wellbeing and make sustainable living easy, affordable and attractive	Provide and promote healthy and happy productive workplaces
Ethical procurement	Choose sustainable products, materials and suppliers	Care for and curate homes and places responsibly and sustainably	Create positive environmental impacts through operational choices

Contact us

Communications & External Affairs

Southern Housing Group
Fleet House, 59-61 Clerkenwell Road
London EC1M 5LA

Email: communications@shgroup.org.uk

Follow us at: [@SHGroupUK](https://twitter.com/SHGroupUK)

To view the full strategy please visit our
website www.shgroup.org.uk

© Southern Housing Group
The contents of this report may not
be reproduced without permission.

