
Ecology and Biodiversity Policy



Introduction

Safeguarding the environment is one of our business principles. Underpinning that principle is our commitment to:

- Avoid and minimise any negative environmental impacts of our operations and seek to implement this through our supply chain.
- Seek to integrate biodiversity enhancements into our layout and landscape designs, and into our developments, aligning with our priority to develop Great Places.

Objectives

Ensure at the earliest stages of the development life cycle that short, medium and long term opportunities are identified to protect, create, enhance or restore natural environments in which biodiversity can flourish.

Create specific opportunities for biodiversity and related health and well-being benefits for people.

Policy

The Group will

- Comply with ecological legislation, national planning policy and apply best practice to protect and enhance the environment we operate in.
- Identify and manage ecological aspects of our developments from the time of land purchase through development and handover to the communities we create.
- Ensure that developments where we seek planning permission, develop and implement a Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Ensure all our operating Divisions follow our Group standards contained in our Great Places design guide, Ecological Practice Notes and landscape design guide 'Growing with Nature'.
- Work with and support organisations that specialise in ecology to help further our approach to managing and enhancing natural capital.

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- Enhance awareness amongst our employees, customers and other stakeholders (e.g. landowners and local authorities) as to how our development designs and the use of sustainable building materials creates benefits for people and biodiversity.

This policy is reviewed annually and is approved by the Group Board. It is communicated to key stakeholders and is available on our website.

David Thomas, Chief Executive

30th August 2019

