

ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT - STATEMENT OF INTENT

I confirm the commitment of Groundsell Contracting Limited to a management framework which pursues continual and progressive improvement in environmental matters. Where the opportunity for improvement is identified, the changes will be, as far as is reasonably practicable, supported with adequate resources both physical and financial. This environmental policy will be subjected to regular review and development, as a minimum annually.

Groundsell Contracting Limited deal with a wide range of different activities, recognise that many may influence the environment and we are committed to minimising or mitigating, where possible, any adverse impacts.

I require all managers and employees to be aware of the implications of our activities on the surrounding environment and on the communities within which we operate. As an organisation we will take all necessary actions to ensure the prevention of pollution and compliance with all statutory environmental standards. We will seek to achieve a continual improvement in environmental performance.

Groundsell Contracting Limited will establish and implement an Environmental Management System and will define environmental performance targets in the following areas:

- Providing a safe and healthy working environment for all employees and ongoing training in environmental matters.
- Creating a culture where environmental considerations are integrated into decisions and activities across the Company
- Maximising efficient utilisation of all resources, raw materials and energy including purchase from reputable suppliers, means of delivery, correct storage and transportation to site.
- Minimising the creation of waste and encouraging recycling of waste as appropriate.
- Providing a framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets.
- Eliminating occasions, wherever possible, whereby any form of environmental nuisance is caused to our neighbours and neighbours of our customers.

Every employee has a part to play in the success of this policy and all staff are actively encouraged to contribute their ideas for better environmental management.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The company shall ensure that all the work carried out under any contract is in accordance with the **Health and Safety at Work etc Act, 1974** and subsequent Health and Safety Legislation.

The Environmental Protection Act 1990 (as amended) and Regulations brought hereunder, all other relevant statutory provisions and best trade practices.

The company will use standards outlined in Health and Safety Executive, the Environment Agency and other approved bodies publications.

ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

The company shall take all responsible measures to prevent any environmental incident such as spills, leaks or sudden omissions.

However, in the event of an incident occurring, the company will immediately notify the customer or Contract Administrator and address the situation by taking what steps are necessary to mitigate any effects or impact upon the environment.

Groundsell Contracting Limited Environmental Incident Report

Reported by	Location of the incident	Date and Time

What was involved?

Substance involved:	
Product number (on label) where available	

Containment used:

Containment medium used:	
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About the Incident:

Describe briefly what happened

Who did it involve?

Please make note of all persons who were involved with the incident any injuries sustained and first aid measures taken:

What was affected?

Please give details of any local environmental contamination by the incident.

Please sign and Date

Name	Signature	Date

Once completed please return to the H&S co-ordinator

WASTE AND STORAGE OF MATERIALS

The company can produce valid certificates to verify the use of suitably licensed waste receiving facilities.

The fly tipping of vegetation waste and other spoil removed from sites is prohibited.

The company will keep waste awaiting collection in a tidy manner and in a designated area, adequately contained. Where required, waste will be separated for recycling.

Store all toxic, ecotoxic and hazardous materials and substances particularly liquids in suitable, clearly identifiable containers, which will prevent accidental leaks and spillages contaminating the surrounding land any associated aquifers.

Such materials shall be kept away from open drains and watercourses and handled in accordance with COSHH Regulations.

In the event of an accident work shall halt immediately and any leakage shall be stemmed or repaired. Any resultant pollution shall, as necessary, be dealt with as an environmental incident.

Appropriate means of absorption for leaks or spillages will also be kept at hand.

WATER

The use of the public drainage system is prohibited to dispose of any liquid waste or effluents.

Any damage to local watercourses such as embankments and aquatic life shall, as necessary, be dealt with as an environmental incident and addressed as appropriate.

Environment Agency emergency telephone number 0800 80 70 60

AIR EMISSIONS

The company prohibits open fires and the burning of waste.

Measures to prevent the general propagation of dust shall be taken where practicable and necessary.

Emission to air shall as necessary be controlled and all smells, odours and fumes including smoke and exhaust emissions from vehicles, plant and equipment be minimised or preferably prevented,

Any fugitive emissions shall be investigated and the source of the emission identified and rectified.

NOISE

The company will use the best practicable means of attenuating noise whilst working.

THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY

Where excessive noise, vibration or lighting is likely, appropriate measures shall be used to minimise or preferably prevent any damage to property or nuisance to neighbours and employees.

The location, time and duration of work involving elevated noise levels, including the relevant control measures should always be considered.

The visual impact of projects upon neighbours shall be minimised.

The movement of vehicles on / off and adjacent to sites shall be controlled to ensure minimum deposit of mud, pollution, disturbance to neighbours and damage to footpaths and carriageways.

The protection and possible damage to flora, fauna, wildlife habitats, listed buildings and areas of archaeological or historical importance must always be considered.

All due diligence will be observed by the management and workforce to ensure that all relevant parts of the **Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981** (as amended) are complied with at all times.

BIOSECURITY

Detailed Guidance is available for members of our workforce from line managers overseeing projects.

It is essential that all members of our workforce must follow simple rules to prevent contaminated footwear tools equipment being the cause of transference of contamination from site to site.

The simple task of effectively cleaning soil or other debris from footwear and clothing before leaving a site will go a long way to prevent cross contamination of sites.

All tools and equipment used on a site must be cleaned thoroughly and disinfected if possible, on leaving a site or on the return to the yard if this is direct.

Any excess of soil / debris must be removed from vehicle cabs. The exterior of the vehicle must be cleaned with particular attention being paid to the underside and wheels/tyres of the vehicle.

Our Carbon Footprint - Statement of intent

Groundsell Contracting Limited wish to behave in a responsible manner and fully accept that our operations may have an impact on the environment

It is our positive intention to minimise our impact on the environment by

Considering any effects that our business may have on the Island communities

Attempt to work in partnership with the community by undertaking our activities with consideration and in a socially responsible manner.

Prevent pollution by reducing waste in every aspect of our business.

Protect and preserve natural habitats, flora and fauna.

Promote environmental awareness amongst our suppliers.

Ensure effective and expedient incident control, investigation and reporting

Ways in which we as a company may help achieve a reduction in our environmental impact by carbon reduction:

- Minimise the amount of electricity the company use by not using unnecessary lighting or electrical equipment around the depot and offices
- Heating of the office during the winter months is controlled

- Ensuring that electrical equipment e.g. computers and other office equipment are not left on standby when not in use
- Minimise the use of water which cannot be recycled using all means possible both at the depot and on customer's property
- Minimise vehicle and plant fuel consumption when planning work schedules and routing of vehicles
- Strict 'routine' maintenance of vehicles, plant and equipment
- Do not run vehicle, plant or equipment engines when they are not needed
- Only purchasing replacement or new equipment that is more environmentally friendly including reduced carbon emissions
- Minimising the use of materials and substances to prevent unnecessary waste
- Sorting recyclable waste prior to disposal
- Ensuring that any 'left over' materials cannot be used for another task or by another person before considering disposal