

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICY

Statement of Purpose

The policy applies in respect of any person to whom Sentinel owes a duty of care.

Sentinel is dedicated to ensuring:

- the health, safety and welfare of all our staff and others who work under our control;
- the safety of the general public who use or have access to sites under our control;
- safe and secure homes for our customers;
- that the way in which we develop our undertaking contributes to the well-being of the community.

Overall responsibility for Health and Safety lies with the Board and the Chief Executive. The Business Director is responsible for ensuring this policy is embedded in the day to day operation of the business.

The policy is central to our vision, values and delivery of our business plan. Operational strategies and service action plans will be used to realise and deliver our policy aims. This policy should be read in conjunction with the Health and Safety Procedures which complement it.

Our Approach

- 1.1 In order to meet these aims we shall:
 - 1.1a Keep up to date with best practice in relation to health and safety and comply with all relevant legislation and related guidance;
 - 1.1b Manage the health and safety risks arising from our work activities;
 - 1.1c Require those who undertake work on our behalf to apply the highest standards of health and safety;
 - 1.1d co-operate with local authorities, statutory bodies and public services in the interests of public safety and safeguarding the environment;
 - 1.1e Give a high priority to health and safety in all our operations;
 - 1.1f Develop, implement and monitor health and safety regimes appropriate to our work;
 - 1.1g Monitor the Health & safety performance of contractors, consultants and volunteers who work for us;
 - 1.1h Appoint a Health and Safety “competent person” for the organisation and ensure they are adequately trained.
 - 1.1i Provide the necessary resources to implement our policies and keep them up to

date;

- 1.1j Consult with, and involve our staff in all matters affecting their health and safety;
- 1.1k Provide the necessary equipment, work wear and training for the tasks to be performed;
- 1.1l Seek continuous improvement, in terms of quality and cost, in the management of health and safety, demonstrating this by regular bench marking against similar organisations;
- 1.1m Establish an annual safety plan with targets for health and safety performance, reviewing and reporting on the achievement of these targets to the Board;
- 1.1n Risk assessment will be carried out in accordance with our risk assessment guidelines;
- 1.1o Manage our housing stock in line with the Housing, Health & Safety Rating System.

Board Members, Employees, Consultants, Contractors & Volunteers

- 2.1 The above representatives of Sentinel must:
 - 2.1a Complying with all safe working methods and instructions.
 - 2.1b Deliver the association's health and safety related policies and procedures in order to mitigate risk to themselves and our customers.
 - 2.1c Participate in health and safety training and apply it to their work.
 - 2.1d Where applicable, wear the required protective work wear. Our representatives will not interfere with or misuse any article provided in the interest of health and safety.
 - 2.1e Promptly report hazards found in premises or sites under our control. This includes the reporting of any accidents or other potentially serious incidents in which they are involved or that they become aware of.
 - 2.1f Involve themselves, through their representative on the Health and Safety Forum or directly, in the management of health and safety at work in the delivery of services
 - 2.1g Where appropriate, in new or existing areas of work, highlight the need for additional health and safety procedures or for the improvement of existing ones.
 - 2.1h Remain alert to health, safety and security risks while at work and acting accordingly.
 - 2.1i Comply with Construction (Design and Management) Regulations.

Equality and Diversity

We aim to be an association that values, recognises and responds to the diverse needs of members and those we serve. We will not discriminate against any person or other organisation on the grounds of race, ethnic origin, disability, gender, sexuality, age, class, appearance, religion, responsibility for dependants, unrelated criminal activities, being HIV

