

## Environmental Policy


As the Regional Development Agency for the South East, SEEDA provides leadership to shape and ensure delivery of the Regional Economic Strategy (RES). The vision for the RES is that, by 2016, the South East will be a world class region achieving sustainable prosperity. This vision can only be achieved with and through our partners, who rightly expect SEEDA to provide environmental leadership in its own activities and actions. To this end SEEDA launched the Low Carbon Regional Leadership Group at the Second Annual RES Partners' Conference on 29 January 2009.

SEEDA is committed to becoming an exemplar to minimising its own impact on the environment by preventing pollution and continually improving its environmental performance through the setting and review of objectives and targets. This is being achieved through the development of an Environmental Management System (EMS) in accordance with the requirements of the International Standard for Management Systems (ISO14001:2004). The scope of the EMS is initially covering the direct impacts of SEEDA's office-related activities (at Guildford and Chatham) in addition to facilities management and procurement services. The EMS will subsequently be extended to SEEDA's broader impacts resulting from its funding and influencing activities.

SEEDA is committed in particular to:

- Increasing the efficiency of its energy and water use, and reducing the carbon emissions of its own activities as well as supporting these goals for the South East region in line with its Corporate Plan and the Regional Economic Strategy.
- Practicing waste minimisation and taking action to re-use or recycle whatever possible.
- Minimising the environmental impact of its business travel and staff commuting by introducing new ways of working and promoting more sustainable travel options, enabling individuals to commit to reduce the impact of their lives.
- Implementing initiatives which minimise the environmental impact of goods and services it purchases.
- Communicating its policy commitments to all staff and those working for, or on behalf of, SEEDA, and encouraging them to adopt and promote these commitments throughout their work.
- Ensuring compliance with all the relevant environmental legislation and with other environmental obligations, requirements or commitments.

This policy will be displayed at all strategic locations, made publicly available and will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure its continuing effectiveness.



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Chief Executive

Dated: 16th March 2009