

Helping create a better future

Our guide to more sustainable living

OUR VISION
2030
TRANSFORMING TOMORROW



Berkeley
Group

When you choose Berkeley, you've already chosen to live more sustainably

The Berkeley Group is one of the country's leading sustainable developers. We're in the business of placemaking, which means we build neighbourhoods and communities as well as beautiful homes. And sustainability is at the core of everything we do, from the design of the homes and communities we build, to the way we run our business.

When you buy a new home from Berkeley, you'll be able to share in our commitment to environmental responsibility by taking advantage of the range of features we provide to help you reduce your environmental impact. We hope your new home might also inspire you to make a few lifestyle changes that, as well as reducing your impact even further, could also make you healthier and save you money.



ROB PERRINS - GROUP MANAGING DIRECTOR



Our Vision 2030

Over the years, the Berkeley Group has won many prestigious awards for quality, design and sustainability. Our Vision 2030 is Berkeley's plan for the business, designed to raise our standards higher still.

Our goal is to be a world-class business, trusted to transform the most challenging sites into exceptional places and to maximise our positive impact on society, the economy and the natural world. Our Vision 2030 identifies 10 strategic priorities that will help us to transform tomorrow.

OUR 10 PRIORITIES ARE SPLIT INTO TWO CATEGORIES:

What we create

Places that stand the test of time

Customers

Put our customers at the heart of our decisions and provide an industry leading home buying experience.

Quality

Lead the industry in producing high quality, safe homes for all.

Communities

Transform underused land into unique, well connected and welcoming places where people and communities can thrive for the long-term.

Climate action

Play an active role in tackling the global climate emergency by creating low carbon, resilient homes.

Nature

Create a net biodiversity gain and make a measurable contribution to the natural environment on every development.

How we work

Exceptional people and resources

Employee experience

Create a positive working environment for our people; one that fosters respect, support, wellbeing, safety and inclusivity.

Modernised production

Harness advanced manufacturing and digital technology to build more homes, and to achieve higher standards of quality, safety and sustainability.

Future skills

Equip our people with the skills they need both now and for the future, enhancing social mobility and inspiring new talent to join the industry.

Supply chain

Build a responsible and constructive supply chain; one that is productive, practical and profitable, sustainable, ethical and dependable.

Shared value

Allocate capital to deliver sustainable returns to our shareholders whilst creating value for our other stakeholders including through the work of The Berkeley Foundation.

Designed for Life

With Berkeley you can live more sustainably without compromising your lifestyle. All of our developments are 'designed for life' which means that they have been designed and built to the highest standards of sustainability and include many features that enable you to carry on the good work.

This guide explains some of the measures that Berkeley has taken, through Our Vision 2030, to ensure that the homes and places we create make it easy for residents to live a sustainable lifestyle. At the back of this guide you will find an insert which tells you about the specific sustainability features included in your development.

Preserving the planet for future generations is in our own hands

Sustainability is about doing things in a way that meets our own needs but also allows people in the future to meet their needs as well – most importantly by protecting the environment.

The biggest threat to our environment comes from climate change and biodiversity loss caused by human activity. Increased greenhouse gases in our atmosphere trap heat from the sun, causing our climate to warm up.

This warming effect creates lots of problems: rising sea levels and more extreme weather events such as droughts and flooding. These have knock-on effects on the habitats of plants and animals, food and water availability, rates of disease, and global economies.

However, sustainability is not just about preventing climate change. Society uses huge amounts of natural resources, creates large amounts of waste and is having a significant impact on biodiversity.

If we continue in this way, we'll make further problems for ourselves in the future. We need to find ways to reduce our impact whilst maintaining our quality of life. It is also important that we adapt to extreme weather and consider the future climate in the design of new homes and developments.

key fact:

The rate of sea level rise is accelerating: it has more than doubled from **1.4mm** per year throughout most of the 20th century to **3.6mm** per year from 2006–2015¹

¹ Climate.gov, January 2021

Energy has a cost that goes far beyond our utility bills

We use energy in our homes for heating, hot water and lighting, and to power appliances like our fridges, washing machines, televisions and kettles. As well as costing money, using electricity or gas generates carbon dioxide emissions.



key fact:

Energy Saving Trust says around **22%** of the UK's carbon emissions comes from our homes as a result of heating, hot water and powering devices.

<https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/energy-at-home/>

We can all put a bit more effort into saving energy

We need to use energy in our homes so we can live comfortably. However, there are lots of ways we can help reduce the amount we use.

What we do

Our homes are designed to use less energy, with high levels of insulation, low energy lighting and efficient heating systems. Many are also supplied with renewable energy from solar photovoltaic panels, solar thermal panels, and air or ground source heat pumps.

Since 2018, we have been working out how our developments can transition to low carbon technologies by 2030.

Where we provide appliances in our homes, we use models that have high efficiency ratings under the Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme.

What you can do



Turn the temperature down by one degree: this can save up to 10% on your energy bill.



Fill your appliances: try to wait until you have a full load to do the laundry or turn on the dishwasher.



Look at the labels: appliances are rated for their energy efficiency under the Energy Efficiency Labelling Scheme, so check before you buy.



Use an economy setting: select the low temperature or economy setting on your appliances. Many washing detergents work just as effectively at 30 degrees.



Switch off: turn off lights when you leave a room and save more energy by turning appliances off rather than leaving them on standby.



Join in with Earth Hour: discover all the small changes that can create a big difference when everyone works together at www.earthhour.org.



Only boil what you need: it takes a lot of energy to boil a kettle, so only filling the kettle up with as much water as you need could save around £6 in energy bills a year³.

key fact:

Switching appliances off rather than leaving them on standby could save around **£35** a year⁴

³ and ⁴ <https://energysavingtrust.org.uk/top-10-energy-saving-actions-for-your-home/>



While waste volumes keep on growing, the space we have to put it stays the same size

Households in Britain produce just over 26 million tonnes of waste per year, equivalent to around 392kg per person⁵. Only around 45% of waste in England is recycled – just under 55% is sent to landfill⁶. This is a problem because we have a finite amount of landfill space in the UK. In 2017, it was calculated that England has only 6.8 years left of non-hazardous landfill capacity⁷.

⁵ <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/community-and-advice/green-living/why-tackle-waste/>

⁶ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/966114/Statistics_on_waste_managed_by_local_authorities_in_England_in_2019v3_accessible.pdf

⁷ www.groundsure.com/resources/the-reducing-landfill-capacity-in-the-uk/

⁸ <https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/community-and-advice/green-living/why-tackle-waste/>

keyfact:

In less than **2 hours** in Britain we produce enough waste to fill the Royal Albert Hall ⁸

It's worth giving a bit more thought to rubbish

We must find ways to reduce the amount of waste we produce, reuse and recycle more, and find alternative ways of disposing of the remainder.

What we do

We provide recycling facilities to all of our homes. This will normally be a compartmentalised bin in the kitchen for you to segregate your waste and space outside for all of the recycling bins that are provided by your local council.

What you can do

Avoid buying products with excessive packaging
fruit and vegetables don't need to be wrapped in protective packaging if you're careful taking them home.

Remember your bags

Since the introduction of the 5p charge in 2014, the number of single-use plastic bags from supermarkets has dropped by 90% in England⁹. That's a fantastic drop in plastic going straight into the bin, so make sure you always take bags shopping with you.

Cut down on food waste

Make a list of what you need before you go shopping and use your freezer to store excess food. We waste £12 billion a year on food that we end up throwing away, costing the average family £60¹⁰ a month. Find out more about storing your food and avoiding waste at www.lovefoodhatewaste.com.

Keep recycling

check how your council recycling collection scheme runs. If there's anything it doesn't collect, check if you can recycle at the supermarket or local recycling centre. Recycling labels can be confusing so learn what they mean at www.recyclenow.com.

⁹ www.theguardian.com/environment/2019/jul/31/shoppers-use-of-plastic-bags-in-england-continues-to-fall

¹⁰ <https://lovefoodhatewaste.com/article/TakeAction>

¹¹ <https://www.recyclenow.com/recycling-knowledge/why-recycle>

key fact:

Recycling helps to save energy and also reduces our greenhouse gas emissions. Current UK recycling is estimated to save more than **18 million tonnes** of CO₂ a year – equivalent to taking 5 million cars off the road¹¹



Water, the most important resource on Earth

Although it appears that we get plenty of rain in the UK, parts of the country actually get less rainfall per person than many Mediterranean countries. The news is regularly filled with stories about flooding, but water from intense periods of rainfall is very often hard to capture and isn't sufficient to top up our stores.

¹² www.water.org.uk/news-item/discover-water-update-with-2018-19-figures/
¹³ Energy Saving Trust: At Home with Water

key fact:

The average person in England and Wales uses **143 litres** of water a day – ¹². Showers are the biggest water user in the house (25%), followed by lavatories (22%) ¹³

Drop by drop, we can all make a difference in water conservation

Our water supplies are under pressure from an increasing population and climate change. Research commissioned by the Climate Change Committee estimated the demand for water in England will exceed supply by between 1.1 billion and 3.1 billion litres per day by the 2050s, depending on the extent of climate change and population growth¹⁴.

Predictions of rising temperatures and drier summers mean that we can expect to experience higher water demand with increased risk of drought. If we take too much water from our rivers and groundwater, we run the risk of damaging the health of the environment and its ability to support fish and other wildlife.

We need to find ways of using water much more efficiently and sustainably if we are to continue to enjoy high standards and constant supply.

What we do

We design all of our new homes to be water efficient. This means that the taps and showers we provide are fitted with devices that make sure their flow is no more than it needs to be. All toilets have a part-flush option and appliances we provide are selected for their water efficiency.

We also install rainwater harvesting systems to reuse rain falling on roofs. On individual houses, water butts may be provided and on apartment schemes, the water may be used in development landscaping or water features.

What you can do

Please turn off the tap: when brushing teeth, shaving, washing hands, or rinsing dishes. It's easy to do and can save up to six litres of water per minute. You can wash vegetables and fruit in a bowl and use the water for pot plants.

Run your washing machine and dishwasher with full loads: you'll save water as well as energy.

Limit the hosepipe: it uses more water in just 30 minutes than the average family uses in a day, so try to avoid using one.

Take a quick shower rather than a bath: showers use between seven and 10 litres of water per minute so a quick one typically uses much less water than a bath. But if you stay in there for more than 10 minutes, you may not be saving water at all.



Advice approved and endorsed by Waterwise

keyfact:

If every home in the UK took one minute off their shower every day it would save **£215 million** on our collective energy bills every year¹⁵

¹⁴ National Audit Office: Water supply and demand management, June 2020

¹⁵ www.waterwise.org.uk/save-water

On the path to greener forms of transport

Transport accounts for around 27%¹⁶ of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions and the vast majority of these emissions come from road transport. Road vehicles can also impact on the local environment through particulate emissions, noise and congestion.

key fact:

Transport emissions are only **4.6% lower** than in 1990, as increased road traffic has largely offset improvements in vehicle fuel efficiency¹⁶

¹⁶ https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/957887/2019_Final_greenhouse_gas_emissions_statistical_release.pdf

Sustainable travel options

There are plenty of alternatives to using the car to get around that are far less polluting, healthy and cheap. In London and other major cities they can also be quicker too.

What we do

We locate many of our developments close to excellent public transport links and you will find cycle storage on all of them. We also design facilities into all homes to allow you to set up a home office and avoid the commute. On developments we provide electric car charging points.

What you can do

Consider going by public transport

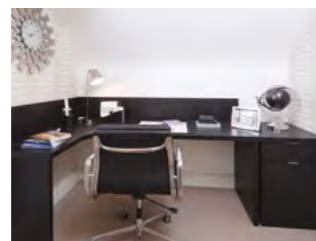
try Transport for London's Journey Planner (tfl.gov.uk/plan-a-journey/) or the Transport Direct Route Planner (www.transportdirect.info) for the best journeys.

Join a car club

these are useful if public transport can meet most of your needs but you need to make the occasional car journey. Zipcar and Enterprise Car Club are two of the bigger operators (www.zipcar.com and www.enterpriseclub.co.uk).

Be a greener driver

consider buying electric or hybrid for your next car. In the meantime, smarter driving could increase your MPG by up to 15%¹⁷. Turning off your engine in stationary traffic, checking your tyre pressure, shifting to higher gears earlier and avoiding unnecessary braking and acceleration are all good ways of reducing fuel consumption. For more tips, visit: energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/ecodriving/.



¹⁷ energysavingtrust.org.uk/advice/ecodriving/

¹⁸ www.carbonbrief.org/media/148355/130111_media_factsheet_2013.pdf

Cycle-friendly routes feature on many Berkeley developments.

key fact:

Walking or cycling your children to and from school each day instead of driving could save around **£230** on fuel and **380kg** of CO₂ emissions each year¹⁸



Bringing home nature

The value of a healthy natural world cannot be understated. Nature cools, cleans and recycles the air we breathe, and the water we drink. It feeds us, clothes us, calms our minds and supports our lives in countless ways.

But nature has been in steep decline for many years. We believe that responsible homebuilding can be part of the solution, helping nature to recover and enhancing our wellbeing.

key facts:

The population sizes of mammals, birds, fish, amphibians and reptiles have seen an alarming average drop of **68%** since 1970¹⁹

19 WWF Living Planet Report 2020 livingplanet.panda.org/en-gb/

Nature needs help

Put simply, reduced biodiversity means millions of people face a future where food supplies are more vulnerable to pests and disease, and one in which fresh water is in irregular or short supply.

On the other hand, preserving the natural environment and enhancing biodiversity can provide us with enjoyment and recreational opportunities in parks, gardens and open spaces. It is therefore vital that we do all we can to protect and enhance biodiversity.

What we do

On all new developments, we work with ecologists, landscape architects and local experts like to ensure we protect ecology, as well as create beautiful places. We also install living roofs on all suitable apartment roof spaces, which provide additional habitat for animals and plants.

We have led our industry on net biodiversity gain and laid the path for it to become a national legal requirement for all developments. Our target is to deliver a minimum 10% net gain on every site, regardless of its former use.

What you can do

Encourage wildlife in your garden

If you are lucky enough to have your own garden, there are plenty of ways to help enhance biodiversity. Putting out food and water for birds, planting native trees and flowers or composting are just a few of the ideas you could consider. For more ideas visit: www.rhs.org.uk/advice/wildlife-garden/wildlife/encourage-wildlife-to-your-garden.

Show your support for conservation

There are a wide variety of organisations that do conservation work or help wildlife. Why not consider supporting your local Wildlife Trust that tackles various environmental and conservation efforts, or, if a particular issue sparks your interest, find ways to support it.

keyfact:

A study of biodiversity revealed **6 times** more birds in urban gardens than in the nation as a whole²⁰

²⁰ Fuller RA, Tratalos J, Gaston KJ (2009) How many birds are there in a city of half a million people? Diversity and Distributions 15: 328–337.



Purchaser power is all about making the right choices

The choices we make when buying foods and other products can have a significant effect on the environment. For example, many of the foods that we eat are now shipped or flown long distances before arriving at our local supermarket. Choosing these foods means that we are indirectly generating additional carbon dioxide emissions.

key fact:

The proportion of home-grown eating apples sold in the UK has increased from **31%** in 2007 to **39%** in 2019 ²¹

21 DEFRA: Horticulture Statistics 2019



Remember to check the label and the origin

There are many sustainable choices we can make when we shop. To help us make the right choices, there are a range of sustainable products and food brands covering everything from timber to fish, tea and coffee. There are also a few basic facts we should all be aware of to help us become more informed consumers.

What we do

We have policies in place that commit us to using only timber from certified, sustainable sources. We encourage our contractors to use resources responsibly too, and were the first housebuilder to become a partner of the Supply Chain Sustainability School's 'Homes' School.

What you can do

Choose sustainable fish if you can

fish are the species that has seen the greatest decline in the last 40 years thanks to unsustainable fishing methods. Look for the Marine Stewardship Council or the Pole-and-Line caught label, or ask your fishmonger. The Marine Conservation Society (MCS) has more information at www.mcsuk.org/goodfishguide/.

Look for certified timber and timber products

every two seconds, an area of forest the size of a football pitch is lost due to logging or destructive practices. Some 72%²² of Indonesia's forest landscapes and 17%²³ of the Amazon's have already been lost forever.

You can check that the wood and wood products that you buy are from well-managed forests by looking out for the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) or Programme for the Endorsement of Forest Certification (PEFC) labels.

If possible, buy local and seasonal food

as well as cutting your carbon footprint, this will help support local producers, and often the food is tastier and more nutritious. Find out which foods are in season at www.eatseasonably.co.uk, or have a look for your nearest farmers' market at www.lfm.org.uk or www.bigbarn.co.uk.

²² www.greenpeace.org/usa/forests/Indonesia/

²³ www.worldwildlife.org/threats/deforestation-and-forest-degradation

²⁴ www.fairtrade.org.uk

key fact:

26% of all Fairtrade products are sold in the UK. Every year we buy 1.6 billion Fairtrade bananas²⁴



Sustainably sourced sardines

What makes a vibrant, sustainable community?

There are many elements that make a sustainable community. High quality buildings, good transport services, low environmental impact, safety and security, access to green space and a thriving local economy are all important. People need access to jobs, healthcare, shops and other services. However, often it's the interaction between the people within the communities that makes the biggest difference.

key fact:

Over 85% of people say that good quality public space has a direct impact on their lives and the way that they feel each day²⁵

25 CABI: The value of public space

It's about people as much as places

The relationships people form with their neighbours, or even local shopkeepers or postmen, are important in a well-functioning community. Places, events and activities that bring people together can foster a strong sense of solidarity and make people feel good about where they live.



What we do

We have developed our own system for measuring the social sustainability of our developments and we apply this understanding to the design of new communities. This ensures that the places we build are of the highest quality and help to promote a good quality of life, now and in the future.

We've contributed £2.1 billion to community facilities over the last five years, and have partnered with the Quality of Life Foundation to promote good practice in holistic placemaking and social sustainability.

What you can do

Are there ways you could get involved?

You can contribute to or participate in your community in many ways. If you are a keen sports person, think about joining your local sports club. If sport isn't for you, keep an eye out for other local clubs that might interest you. The NHS Change4Life website (www.nhs.uk/Change4life) has

a search function that allows you to find things to do near to where you live.

Alternatively, you could also support organisations working in your local community by volunteering. Have a look at: www.do-it.org.uk to see if there are any exciting volunteering opportunities near to you.

Keep an eye out for other activities or events that are being organised in your local area and show your support for your community by going along. Your local council is a good source of information and most council websites have a list of upcoming events taking place in your local area.

keyfact:

Wellbeing surveys show that **76%** of people in England are satisfied with their local area as a place to live and **82%** agree it is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together²⁶

²⁶ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/community-life-survey-201920>

Berkeley: placemaking, not just housebuilding

Berkeley is one of the UK's leading housebuilders, with a record of success that dates from 1976, but the scope of our business goes way beyond building houses and apartments. We call it placemaking.

- In 2021, we delivered more than 3,250 high quality homes of all types and tenures.
- 88% of our homes are on brownfield land, helping to bring underused sites back into community use.
- Our operations support some 28,000 jobs.
- We have introduced approved Science Based Targets to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions significantly by 2030.
- In the last five years we've contributed £2 billion to community facilities.
- Since 2011, we have donated and committed more than £20.9 million to charities and causes through our charitable initiative the Berkeley Foundation, reaching over 26,000 people.

The insert enclosed tells you about sustainability features specific to your development.

Helping create a better future



Proud members of the Berkeley Group

Berkeley
Designed for life

St Edward
Designed for life

St George
Designed for life

St James
Designed for life

St Joseph
Designed for life

St William
Designed for life

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