

# **QUALITY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND H&S POLICY** **OF** **LOWTHER FORESTRY GROUP LIMITED**

## **Quality Policy**

Lowther Forestry Group Ltd is committed to establishing and maintaining a Quality Management System (QMS) that meets the requirements of ISO 9001:2015. Our goal is to consistently deliver high-quality products and services that fully satisfy our clients' needs. To achieve this, we will promote active collaboration with clients and principal contractors, ensuring compliance with contract requirements, specifications, relevant industry codes of practice and British Standards, including but not limited to BS3998, BS1722, BS4428, BS8545 and BS6579.

We adhere strictly to the National Highways Sector Scheme 18, 2a & 2c, delivering all highway projects in alignment with Series 3000 and 0300 together with all associated quality management provisions as outlined in the appendices and the Manual of Contract Documents for Highway Works (MCHW).

Our commitment to customer satisfaction drives us to foster a culture of continual improvement throughout the company. As members of the Conflict Avoidance Directory, we actively seek to introduce conflict avoidance procedures into all framework agreements and contracts and promote collaborative working with our clients/customers to minimise disputes.

We evaluate and monitor our improvement and client satisfaction through regular internal and external audits, quality inspections, and customer satisfaction surveys.

To support our continued success, we will monitor both internal and external risks and business opportunities and provide adequate resources (financial, training, supervision, equipment and materials) to empower our personnel to perform effectively and meet the required standards.

The performance of our QMS and quality objectives will be reviewed annually to ensure their effectiveness and relevance. We are dedicated to the continuous enhancement of our QMS. This policy will be publicly available on the company's website and reviewed annually.

## **Environmental Policy**

Lowther Forestry Group Limited is committed to operating in a manner that supports the reduction of environmental impacts from our company undertakings. We recognise both our legal and moral obligations to protect and enhance the environment and have established a robust environmental management system which is accredited and certified to ISO 14001:2015. Through the adoption of environmentally responsible policies and working procedures, including the regular review of both performance and scope for improvement, our aim is to create and maintain the highest levels of environmental responsibility across all work disciplines.

Lowther Forestry Group Limited maintains a fundamental belief in the importance of protecting the environment and is committed to ensuring;

- We maintain an environmental management system which is appropriate to our organisation and is fully compliant with the requirements of ISO 14001:2015 together with all applicable statutory and regulatory requirements, industry best practice and all other relevant compliance obligations.
- We are conversant with the environmental impacts of our planned undertakings. We will document and regularly review these to ensure all works are undertaken in a manner which reduces environmental impact and ensures compliance with all relevant statutory and regulatory requirements.
- We manage our activities in such a way that prevents pollution and minimises environmental risks.
- We promote water and energy efficiency measures and continue to work towards a more sustainable fleet of vehicles, plant and equipment solutions which will reduce our overall carbon footprint.
- Wherever possible we collaborate with our clients and other interested parties with the aim of promoting the most economical use of plant, materials, equipment, and energy.
- We seek to minimise the production of waste across all parts of the business.
- We will adhere to the waste hierarchy and seek to reduce, re-use and recycle materials wherever possible.
- We will take a responsible approach to procurement and take environmental performance, life expectancy and end of life management into consideration when purchasing vehicles, plant, equipment and materials.
- That our staff are appropriately trained and have a level of environmental awareness relevant to their roles. They will be communicated with regularly to ensure continual compliance to industry best practice and all relevant statutory and regulatory environmental requirements and standards.

- We encourage employee involvement in positive environmental action and provide scheduled forums for discussion and communication between all levels of staff and have standard daily reporting procedures.

Lowther Forestry Group Limited staff have a responsibility towards the environment, in which they live and work and as such a responsible attitude and commitment to the Company's objectives are expected.

To achieve the aims of this policy we will plan and implement measurable environmental objectives and targets which shall be reviewed on a regular basis. Sufficient resources (finance, training, supervision, equipment and materials) will be provided by the company to allow the policy to be implemented.

The contents of this policy shall be communicated to all personnel through induction training and its understanding verified by way of internal and external auditing of the quality management system.

This policy shall be available to the public via the company's web site and will be reviewed annually.

### **Health & Safety Policy**

It is the policy of Lowther Forestry Group Ltd (LFG) to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of all employees, visitors, contractors and members of the public who may be affected by our activities.

Working in partnership with the workforce, suppliers and contractors, LFG shall ensure that it has the skills, knowledge and necessary resources to perform all its work activities in a safe and healthy environment. To achieve the highest possible standards of health and safety we shall be a Company that:

- Is committed to creating and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment whilst reducing, minimising and mitigating hazards from our work activities
- Proactively acts to promote the safe handling and use of substances hazardous to health
- Provides sufficient training, information, instruction and supervision
- Completes and regular revises risk assessments
- Regularly engages, consults and cooperates with our employees on matters affecting their health and safety
- Actively supports all employees to promote a positive health and safety culture with a recognition that everyone shares a responsibility for health and safety
- Provides suitable welfare facilities and arrangements
- Proactively acts to prevent accidents and cases of work-related ill health
- Appropriately investigates incidents thus allowing the company to recognise trends and learn from our experiences
- Fosters a culture of continuous monitoring and improvement in health and safety management and performance, making any necessary changes and bringing those to the attention of all personnel including the annual revision of ~~this~~ all company policies
- Fully complies with legislative, regulatory and other requirements
- Always maintains access to competent health and safety advice
- Collects and uses personnel data to improve the health, safety and welfare of our staff and others.

In preparing the Health and Safety Policy the Directors declare that the following principles of prevention will apply to the control and management of risk within the business:

- Wherever possible risk will be avoided altogether by adopting alternative working methods
- Unavoidable risks will be evaluated by risk assessments and suitable controls will be implemented
- Priority will be given to risk controls that provide collective protection and will take priority over individual control techniques.

To help achieve our objectives and to ensure our employees recognise their duties under health and safety legislation whilst at work, we will communicate this policy to them and inform them of their duty to take reasonable care for themselves and for others who might be affected by their activities. Where an employee considers that the arrangements for health and safety could be improved, they are encouraged to report this to their line manager or a Company Director at the earliest opportunity.

This policy shall be available to the public via the company's web site and will be reviewed annually.