



Environmental Policy

March 2019

Corporate

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Reviewed by: Petula Davis

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The purpose of this Policy is to establish Stroud District Council's environmental commitment. It covers all of our activities and estate. Stroud District Council is a large employer and a significant resource user and we therefore recognise that our operations and service delivery have a significant impact on the environment.

In addition to fulfilling our statutory environmental responsibilities and complying with all legal and other requirements, including non-mandatory commitments such as Carbon Neutral District by 2030 (CN2030), we will use our powers and influence to further protect and improve the environment, while encouraging and supporting others to do the same.

We will:

- Reduce the consumption of energy and water across all of our activities
- Minimise our impacts of travel by developing more sustainable travel solutions.
- Continue to improve our performance to prevent all types of pollution and reduce CO₂ and other harmful emissions from our activities.
- Work with and where possible require our suppliers and contractors to reduce the impact of the goods and services by considering whole life costs and ending our use of single use plastics.
- Support a district wide programme to make Stroud District Carbon Neutral by 2030.
- Plan and adapt the District to build resilience to adverse weather and climate change risks.
- Minimise the production of waste from our own activities and adhere to the principles of the waste hierarchy.
- Protect, conserve and enhance our District's high quality built environment and distinctive heritage by encouraging environmentally sensitive development through good planning policies and approaches to listed buildings and the effective application of building regulations.
- Protect, conserve and enhance our District's high quality natural environment and its biodiversity whilst improving our parks and open spaces, public rights of ways and green corridors.
- Ensure environmental risks and opportunities are managed positively.

In order to achieve this, we will operate an environmental management system that will be integrated into the corporate management framework to:

- Apply to all activities undertaken by us, including contracted out services as new contracts are negotiated.
- Set objectives and implement action programmes in order to minimise the negative environmental effects and increase the positive effects of our activities.