

CORPORATE ENVIRONMENT POLICY

Derbyshire County Council is committed to putting the principles of sustainable development into action in everything the authority does, so that development meets the needs of today without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs. Managing our environment sustainably will be a part of making Derbyshire a place:

- With resilient and thriving communities
- With happy, healthy people and families
- With a strong, diverse and adaptable economy
- Which is great to live in, visit and work.

We recognise the impact we have on the environment and society through the delivery of our operations and are committed to protecting the environment by minimising any adverse environmental impact, while creating opportunities for enhancing positive environmental effects to improve the quality of life for people. Our flagship commitment is to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions from our own estate and operations to net zero carbon by 2032.

We will encourage and enable all our employees to do what they can to translate these commitments into practice. We will also work with our contractors and suppliers to improve our environmental performance. This policy will, therefore, be communicated to all employees and contractors working for or on behalf of the County Council.

We will monitor our environmental performance by setting organisational objectives and targets and report on our progress.

In developing the Environment Policy, the Council is publicly setting out its commitment to continual environmental improvement. The Environment Strategy and Action Plan set out the work the Council will undertake to implement this policy.

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In everything we do, Derbyshire County Council is committed to...

Reducing greenhouse gas emissions to net zero carbon by 2032

Identifying, adopting and promoting technologies and practices to reduce the emissions of greenhouse gases, including carbon dioxide, from our estate and operations including Council property, street lighting and fleet and employee travel.

Using water efficiently in the Council's buildings and operations

Using water efficiently in our buildings and operations and ensuring improvements are made to the measurement and monitoring of water consumption across our estate to inform water saving practices.

Reducing waste

Eliminating, reducing, reusing, composting and recycling wastes where possible. Managing our remaining wastes in accordance with our Duty of Care obligations.

Minimising pollution

Minimising, with the goal of eliminating, the release of any pollutant which may cause damage to health or the environment whether from air, land or water.

Protecting the natural and built environment

Protecting, conserving and enhancing the environment, habitats, biodiversity and heritage.

Ensure all staff are able to implement the Corporate Environment Policy

Raising awareness, educating and training employees and those working on our behalf to ensure that all staff have the knowledge, skills and understanding to implement the Environment Policy.

Ensuring that the Council's purchasing power is used positively

Ensuring that the Council's purchasing power is used to reduce negative environmental impacts and to improve the environmental standards and social value of products and services the Council purchases.

We will do this by...

Partnership Working

Working closely with employees, other organisations, interested groups and individuals, where appropriate, to further the aims of this Policy.

Objective Setting

Continually improving our environmental performance by setting realistic but challenging objectives and targets and regularly reviewing our progress as set out in the Environment Strategy and Action Plan.

Legal Compliance

Complying with relevant environmental legislation, Council policies and other commitments and striving to deliver best practice.

Environmental Management Systems

Promoting, operating and extending environmental management systems to control, monitor and enhance our environmental performance and communicating this Policy to all employees and contractors.

Policy Review

Reviewing this Environment Policy every three years in view of changes to the Council's activities and priorities in light of new local, national and international developments.