



Environmental Policy

South Staffordshire Council is committed to serving our communities and to protecting and enhancing the environment. The Council is also committed to providing effective and efficient services, which not only provide value for money but also minimise wastage and negative impacts upon the environment.

In providing our services the Council uses resources and produces waste materials, which have an impact on the environment. The Council acknowledges its responsibility to consider the environmental implications of its strategies and plans and to support the development and implementation of policies and practices that will reduce the Council's 'eco-footprint'.

Our main aim is to identify and implement environmentally responsible practices and procedures in order to reduce the overall impact of the Council on the environment. This can be achieved by a combination of improved working practices, greater staff awareness and involvement and an on-going commitment to the pursuit of environmental improvements.

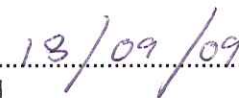
This policy statement has been prepared to document the Council's commitment to the environment and enable the setting of objectives and targets by which continuous environmental improvement can be measured. The objectives and targets will be embedded in our performance management arrangements and monitored and reported via our environmental management system (EMS).

As a measure of its commitment the Council will:

1. Comply with all relevant legislation and other requirements, and adopt codes of practice and guidance when appropriate.
2. Establish and maintain an environmental management system (EMS) at the Council Offices, Wolverhampton Road, Codsall and Lane Green Road Depot.
3. Adopt best practice where possible and strive to continually improve our environmental performance.
4. Educate, train and motivate employees to understand and undertake their role in preventing, controlling and reducing environmental impacts.
5. Promote and communicate environmental issues both internally and externally.
6. Reduce the amount of natural resources used by conserving energy and water.
7. Reduce the amount of waste and pollution we produce.
8. Re-use and recycle as much waste as possible.
9. Aspire to adopt a life cycle approach to measuring the sustainability and impact of projects and initiatives.
10. Consider environmental costs and implications when acquiring resources, purchasing, disposing of waste and in decision-making regarding transport solutions.
11. Through the procurement process, ensure that where possible partners and contractors demonstrate standards of environmental performance that are as a minimum equal to our own.



Steve Winterflood, Chief Executive


Dated